

## EXTENSIONS OF REMARKS

**CONGRATULATIONS TO VOLUNTEERS OF LAKE COUNTY PURDUE UNIVERSITY COOPERATIVE EXTENSION OFFICE**

**HON. PETER J. VISCLOSKY**

OF INDIANA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Tuesday, April 23, 2002*

Mr. VISCLOSKY. Mr. Speaker, it is with great enthusiasm and respect that I wish to congratulate the multitude of volunteers who donate their time and effort to the Lake County Purdue University Cooperative Extension Office located in Crown Point, Indiana. The devoted assistance of these selfless individuals has brought a spirit of volunteerism to the Northwest Indiana community that embodies the culture of its people. The citizens of Northwest Indiana owe them a debt of gratitude, and they will be honored for their commitment, at a dinner reception celebrating National Volunteer Week on April 23, 2002.

Mr. Speaker, National Volunteer Week has been celebrated since 1974, when President Nixon issued an executive order establishing the week as an annual celebration to honor those who volunteer at the local, state, and national levels, and also as an opportunity to impress upon others the benefits and sense of satisfaction that volunteerism provides. This year's theme, "Celebrate the American Spirit—Volunteer!", carries added significance after the tragic events of September 11, 2001. The outpouring of generosity was evident in the days and weeks following the attacks, as volunteers around the country helped initiate the healing process. Through the efforts to these courageous individuals, the Northwest Indiana community continues to unite.

Through a variety of programs, the Lake County Purdue University Cooperative Extension Office assistance to those throughout Lake County. The local 4-H Club is committed to positive youth development by planning camps, workshops, and other activities in which the young citizens of Lake County can participate. Master Gardeners is a program that provides volunteers an opportunity to revitalize their communities through activities related to gardening. Members of this group answer questions related to gardening, conduct gardening schools, and work diligently on community beautification projects. The Extension Homemakers Association works to strengthen Lake County families and help them to develop their homes and communities. Volunteers in this group assist families to maintain physical and mental health and to use their human and economic resources in the most efficient manner. These programs, along with the many others that the Lake County Purdue University Cooperative Extension Office provide, serve as vital resources to the citizens of Lake County.

Mr. Speaker, I ask that you and my other distinguished colleagues in the United States House of Representatives join me in congratulating the volunteers of the Lake County Pur-

due University Cooperative Extension Office for their loyalty and dedication to the Northwest Indiana community. The contributions these individuals make to their fellow citizens and the improvements they provide to their communities cannot be measured with numbers. They create a feeling of camaraderie that expands throughout their neighborhoods and helps to bring a sense of belonging to each of their fellow citizens. Volunteers are a vital part of our community, and I am proud to represent these dedicated individuals in Congress.

IN HONOR OF THE PUERTO RICAN ACTION BOARD

**HON. ROBERT MENEDEZ**

OF NEW JERSEY

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Tuesday, April 23, 2002*

Mr. MENEDEZ. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor the Puerto Rican Action Board on its 30th Anniversary, which was celebrated on Saturday, April 20, 2002, at Pines Manor in New Jersey.

For three decades, the Puerto Rican Action Board (PRAB) has been developing proactive programs to address the needs of the community and improve the quality of life of our families. A private, nonprofit corporation, they have improved local neighborhoods by caring for our children, educating our youth, maintaining and improving our homes, ensuring job placement opportunities, and fighting for justice in our communities.

Serving all people regardless of age, race, creed, color, or national origin, the PRAB is the only social services agency in central New Jersey that offers comprehensive home improvement, preschool, and social services through a bilingual/culturally sensitive approach.

The present programs and services of PRAB include: Greater New Brunswick and Ocean County Multi-Service Program; Pilot Project for Better Housing; "Our Children" Project; Youth Development Program; Latino Scholars Program; Student Re-Engagement Program; Healing Through the Arts; Artists Mentoring Against Racism Summer Program; Bilingual/Multi-cultural Daycare and Preschool Program; Middlesex County Weatherization Assistance Program; Home Energy Assistance Program; New Jersey Statewide Heating Assistance and Referral for Energy Services; English Classes; and numerous other community-oriented programs.

Today, I ask my colleagues to join me in honoring the Puerto Rican Action Board for its efforts to improve the quality of community life for all people. Their presence in our community does not go unnoticed and we give our heartfelt thanks for all that they do.

**HONORING THE 7TH ANNIVERSARY OF THE CONSUMER ART SHOW SPONSORED BY THE MORNINGSIDE-WESTSIDE COMMUNITY ACTION CORPORATION**

**HON. CHARLES B. RANGEL**

OF NEW YORK

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Tuesday, April 23, 2002*

Mr. RANGEL. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor the Morningside-Westside Community Action Corporation as they prepare to host the Seventh Annual Consumer Art Show in New York city.

Working outside the conventional restraints, art participants are mental health consumers from the five boroughs who employ art to communicate their singular expressions, idioms, and viewpoints. The artists represented in this show have one thing in common, and that is a history of serious and persistent mental illness. The beautiful and inspirational art in this show celebrates the artist's individual vision, humanity, and insight.

I applaud the good people at the Morningside-Westside Community Action Corporation for spearheading such a superb gathering of artistic genius.

Founded in 1994, Morningside-Westside Community Action Corporation is an organization that has been actively involved in issues of the mentally ill. Comprised of a group of mental health consumers, family members, providers, and friends—they work as a team to serve not only the mental health community, but the community at large. Through day-to-day activities, employment, and special events, the Morningside-Westside Community Action Corporation not only promotes the rights of those suffering from mental illness, but helps increase the understanding of these rights as well.

These dedicated individuals work hard in order to build a better future for those with mental illness. Their commitment to educate, empower, and enrich the mental health consumer should be an inspiration to us all.

**HONORING THE DISTINGUISHED PUBLIC SERVICE OF CLARENCE "PETE" PHILLIPS**

**HON. BART GORDON**

OF TENNESSEE

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Tuesday, April 23, 2002*

Mr. GORDON. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize the outstanding public service of a good friend of mine, Clarence "Pete" Phillips. Pete is retiring at the end of his current term as a representative of the 62nd Legislative District of Tennessee, a seat he has held since 1973.

During his nearly 30 years in the Tennessee House of Representatives, Pete served his constituents faithfully and honorably. He has

• This "bullet" symbol identifies statements or insertions which are not spoken by a Member of the Senate on the floor.

Matter set in this typeface indicates words inserted or appended, rather than spoken, by a Member of the House on the floor.

done a remarkable job helping the communities he represents grow and prosper. Pete's never-ending work to bolster educational opportunities for our children is admirable. And his unflinching commitment to help communities provide better services and better jobs for their residents is unequalled.

Pete has never shied away from his commitments, a trait displayed not only in the Tennessee General Assembly, but also in the South Pacific during World War II. Pete's grit and determination to get the job done has benefitted a wonderful state and a grateful Nation.

The people of Bedford and Lincoln counties could not have asked for a better public servant. His leadership and work ethic will be sorely missed in the General Assembly. As his wife, Faith, once told me, "If ever a man had his heart in his work, Pete Phillips did." I cordially congratulate Pete on his distinguished career as a public servant and wish him well in future endeavors.

TRIBUTE TO NEW LIFE MEMBERS  
AND OTHER MEMBERS OF GARY,  
INDIANA BRANCH OF NAACP

**HON. PETER J. VISCLOSKY**

OF INDIANA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Tuesday, April 23, 2002*

Mr. VISCLOSKY. Mr. Speaker, it is my distinct pleasure to recognize and commend the members of the Gary, Indiana, branch of the National Association for the Advancement of Colored People (NAACP). On Friday, May 3, 2002, the Gary NAACP will hold its 39th Annual Life Membership Banquet and Scholarship Dinner at the St. Timothy Community Church in Gary, Indiana.

This annual event is a major fundraiser for the Gary branch of the NAACP. The funds generated through this activity, and others like it, go directly to the organization's needed programs and advocacy efforts. In addition, the dinner serves to update and keep the community aware of the activities, accomplishments, and accolades of the local and national chapters of the NAACP on an annual basis.

The featured speaker at this gala event will be Ms. Janette Wilson, Director of Community Intervention and Human Relations for the Chicago Public School System. She has worked diligently to develop partnerships with local schools and public agencies. This network provides mentoring programs, community service programs and assistance with after-school homework centers.

This year, the Gary NAACP will honor seven outstanding community leaders for their lifelong efforts to further equality in society, as well as one sorority. Joining more than four hundred outstanding civil, community, and religious leaders of the region, the following distinguished individuals will be inducted as life members of the Gary NAACP: Larry Pruitt, Willie Watkins, Mary Dennis, Hollis Hite, George Tardy, Barbara Bolling, and Cheron Reed. Additionally, the Sigma Phi Omega Chapter of the Alpha Kappa Alpha Sorority, Inc., will be inducted.

The Gary NAACP was organized in 1915 by a group of residents that felt there was a need for an organization that would monitor and defend the rights of African-Americans in North-

west Indiana. The organization focuses on providing better and more positive ways of addressing the important issues facing minorities in social and job-related settings. Along with its national organization, the Gary branch of the NAACP serves its community by combating injustice, discrimination, and unfair treatment in our society.

Mr. Speaker, I ask you and my other distinguished colleagues to join me in paying tribute to the new life members, as well as the other members of the Gary NAACP for the efforts, activities, and leadership that these outstanding men and women have championed to improve the quality of life for all residents of Indiana's First Congressional District.

INTRODUCTION OF LEGISLATION  
TO RENAME THE POST OFFICE  
IN LAKE LINDEN, MI, AFTER  
THE HONORABLE PHILIP E.  
RUPPE

**HON. DAVE CAMP**

OF MICHIGAN

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Tuesday, April 23, 2002*

Mr. CAMP. Mr. Speaker, today I rise to pay much deserved tribute to former Congressman Philip Edward Ruppe, who ably represented the people of northern Michigan, in Congress, for over a decade.

This bill, introduced by Representative BART STUPAK, designates the facility of the United States Postal Service located at 600 Calumet Street in Lake Linden, Michigan, as the "Philip E. Ruppe Post Office Building." I am pleased to report to my colleagues that the entire Michigan House delegation has signed on as original cosponsors of the measure.

Congressman Ruppe, whose family has lived in northern Michigan since the late 19th Century, was born in Laurium, Michigan on September 29, 1926. He is not only an active civic leader but also a businessman, actively involved in the community, and a veteran, who served his country as a lieutenant in the United States Navy during the Korean conflict.

In 1966, Congressman Ruppe was elected by the people of northern Michigan to serve in the 90th Congress. He served his constituents faithfully until January 3, 1979. As a member of the Merchant Marine and Fisheries Committee, as well as the Interior and Insular Affairs Committee, Congressman Ruppe was able to devote much of his focus to the specific needs of northern Michigan. Congressman Ruppe demonstrated his devotion to his constituents by becoming the first Congressman from the district to operate district offices.

Congressman Ruppe has dedicated his life to serving his community and his country. He is an example of everything that is good and decent in public service and this institution. Naming the post office in Lake Linden, Michigan is just one way we can pay tribute to this fine man and I urge support for the bill.

CONGRATULATIONS TO FORT  
HAYS STATE UNIVERSITY DE-  
BATE AND FINANCIAL PLANNING  
TEAMS

**HON. JERRY MORAN**

OF KANSAS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Tuesday, April 23, 2002*

Mr. MORAN of Kansas. Mr. Speaker, it has been a year of remembrance for Fort Hays State University, which is in the midst of celebrating its centennial year. Few events provide greater reason to pause and appreciate the continuing excellence of this university than the accomplishments of the last week. In the course of one week the university claimed not one, but two national championships. I stand today to recognize this tremendous feat. It is truly an honor to represent such an outstanding institution.

Two students from my own district, Joe Ramsey of Nickerson and Jason Regnier of Salina started this remarkable week by winning the Cross Examination Debate Association National Tournament. These students captured the individual team title and were honored as top speaker in the tournament. The team was challenged by opponents from a number of the country's most well known universities, however they proved that some of the brightest minds reside in western Kansas and at Fort Hays State University. I commend Joe Ramsey and Jason Regnier on their tremendous drive and resolve over the course of their competitive debate careers. Their success speaks highly of their talent and commitment, as well as that of their coach Dr. William Shanahan and teammates Brent Saindon and Paul Marbrey.

Following the triumphant return of the debate team, three more students from my district were declared national academic champions. This time Sarah Evans of Garfield, Steven Sutter, of Abilene and Nicolette Zeigler of Mankato were honored for their victory at the American Express Financial Planning Invitational. This prestigious competition tests the financial knowledge of students at top universities from across the country. Once again, Fort Hays State University students proved themselves among the best in the country. I commend these students for their dedication and energy in preparing for and attaining this victory. It is a clear testament to their financial knowledge, motivation, and academic ability. I also offer my thanks to Dr. Thomas Johansen and Dr. Rory Terry for preparing this team so very well.

It is a tremendous accomplishment to be recognized as the very best. This level of achievement would not have been possible without the leadership of President Edward Hammond and the support of many other members of the Fort Hays State University community.

I congratulate the Fort Hays State University Debate and Financial Planning Teams on their victories. They have helped make the history of Fort Hays State University that much richer in this its centennial year.

HONORING THE DEDICATED SERVICE OF BARBARA KREYKENBOHM

**HON. BART GORDON**

OF TENNESSEE

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Tuesday, April 23, 2002*

Mr. GORDON. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize the tremendous contributions Barbara Kreykenbohm has made to Tennessee's Sixth Congressional District. A Brookings Fellow from NASA, Barbara became an invaluable part of my Washington, D.C., office over these past eight months.

As a fellow Tennessean, Barbara started in my office as a NASA Fellow eager to assist me with my work as the Ranking Member of the House Space and Aeronautics Subcommittee. But, she soon assumed a wide variety of responsibilities.

Throughout all the pressures exerted in such a fast-paced workplace, compounded with the tragic events of September 11 occurring in her first days with my office, her commitment has been a positive influence on everyone. Barbara accomplished each and every assignment with thoroughness and commitment. Her standards are high and her efforts reflect a commitment to excellence.

Although Barbara was originally assigned to work in my office for only a few months, her work ethic, research skills and desire to continue to learn the workings and intricacies of Capitol Hill soon prompted me to ask her to extend her fellowship and stay on as part of my staff.

But, her skills and talents are needed back at NASA. This is her final week as a member of my staff. Although my staff and I are sad to see her leave, Barbara's dedication to science and man's quest for discovery will continue to serve NASA and the American people well.

SITUATION IN THE MIDDLE EAST

**HON. JERRY F. COSTELLO**

OF ILLINOIS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Tuesday, April 23, 2002*

Mr. COSTELLO. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to ask my colleagues to join me in support of Israel and its right to defend itself and its people from terrorism. The struggle between the Israelis and the Palestinians is one of the most longstanding and explosive of all the world's conflicts. It has its roots in the historic claim to the land which lies between the eastern shores of the Mediterranean Sea and the Jordan River. Both peoples have suffered greatly as they struggle to coexist and maintain their cultural and political identities.

However, the continued suicide attacks over the past six months have triggered the worst crisis in the Middle East since the outbreak of the Palestinian intifada 18 months ago. The terror and violence must be stopped. The Chairman of the Palestinian Authority, Yasser Arafat, has not consistently opposed or confronted terrorists or renounced terror. The situation in which he finds himself today is largely of his own making. Given his inability to stop terrorist attacks, the Israeli government feels it must defend itself against the terrorist networks that are killing its innocent citizens. Israel is our most dependable and only demo-

cratic ally in the Middle East, and it is important that the United States steadfastly stand by Israel at this critical juncture to fight terror. The United States and Israel have suffered terrible losses and stand shoulder to shoulder in the war on terrorism. For these reasons, I support Israel and urge my colleagues to join me.

CONGRATULATIONS TO MR. MICHAEL LOPEZ: EAST CHICAGOAN OF THE YEAR

**HON. PETER J. VISCLOSKEY**

OF INDIANA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Tuesday, April 23, 2002*

Mr. VISCLOSKEY. Mr. Speaker, it is with great honor and esteem that I wish to congratulate Mr. Michael Lopez for being selected as the East Chicagoan of the Year. For thirteen years, the Twin City Community Services in East Chicago, Indiana has awarded prominent members of the community with this title. This year's activity will be held on Thursday, April 25 at the Knights of Columbus Hall in East Chicago. During this prestigious event, his family and friends will participate in a roast held in his honor.

As a child growing up in East Chicago, Mickey Lopez, as he is affectionately known to his friends and family, understood that if he were armed with patience and determination, he would overcome all obstacles as he ventured on the path to success. After graduating from Washington High School, Mickey left the confines of the Harbor to attend Indiana University in Bloomington. While on campus, a patriotic spirit awakened within him, and he sought an outlet for its release. Selflessly setting aside his own aspirations so that his natural leadership abilities could serve a greater good, Mickey enlisted into the United States Marine Corps, where he served as a sergeant for over three years. The ideals of discipline, honor, and loyalty that he presently upholds were fomented during these years as he fulfilled his duty to his country.

Having completed his commitment to the Marine Corps, Mickey returned to East Chicago, eager to establish himself among the business leaders of the city. His years spent at the Laidlow and Industrial Disposal companies became the foundation from which his entrepreneurial spirit flourished. Ever conscious of the relationship between industry and community, Mickey keenly observed the growing need for an industrial and environmental cleaning organization in East Chicago that would serve both the Northwest Indiana and Chicago steel mills. Bolstered by his ambition, he approached his childhood friend John Hurubean, and together in 1980, the two partners opened Actin, Inc. Now more than twenty years later, from this small seed has sprouted many other services spanning different types of business throughout Northwest Indiana and the Chicagoland area. In spite of the vast area the company covers, the business is still intimate and family oriented, employing roughly 100 people. More impressive, however, is Mickey's commitment to extending his success to underrepresented individuals in the business world, 85 percent of his employee base are minorities.

Under the leadership of Mickey Lopez, Actin Inc. continues to provide a valuable service to

the residents and businesses of Northwest Indiana. Yet his devotion to his fellow East Chicagoans is not limited to this particular enterprise. His philanthropic nature extend to various civic organizations in his native city. Among those touched by his generosity and his tireless efforts are the Northwest Indiana Business Development Commission, the Saint Catherine's Hospital Foundation, the East Chicago School Foundation, Twin City Community Services, the Lake Shore Chamber of Commerce, and the Lake Area United Way. He is one of the founders of American Legion Post 508 and most recently he was asked to participate in the newly developed High Tech Business Incubator sponsored by Purdue University. These organizations, as well as various minority organizations, reciprocate in kind—their gratitude is evident as they bestow upon him and Actin, Inc. awards commending his service to the community and to his field of expertise. As always, Mickey accepts these accolades with a deep sense of humility.

The Knights of Columbus Hall will be filled with individuals who have been blessed with the opportunity to enjoy Mickey's quick wit, his friendly winks, and his warm, inviting smile. Perhaps the most fortunate are his sister Cathy and his six children—Laura, Michael, Melissa, Chris, Mark, and Eric—all of whom have been able to glean from him an appreciation for all the opportunities life has to offer, and a respect for the delicate relationship forged as one interacts with the greater human family. The next generation of Lopezes, which currently includes ten beautiful grandchildren, will undoubtedly embrace these virtues as they continue to uphold Mickey's tradition of civic mindedness.

Mr. Speaker, I ask that you and my other distinguished colleagues join me in congratulating Mr. Michael Lopez on being recognized as the East Chicagoan of the Year. His commitment and dedication to the citizens of the First Congressional District deems him worthy of this commendation. I wish him continued success, both personally and professionally, and I am honored to represent him in Congress.

HONORING MICHAEL BURR FOR HIS CHARITABLE WORK AND HIS SELECTION AS THOMASTON ROTARY CLUB CITIZEN OF THE YEAR

**HON. NANCY L. JOHNSON**

OF CONNECTICUT

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Tuesday, April 23, 2002*

Mrs. JOHNSON of Connecticut. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to acknowledge the achievements of Mr. Michael Burr of Thomaston, Connecticut. Mr. Burr has been selected by The Thomaston Rotary Club as its Distinguished Citizen of the Year for 2002.

Mr. Speaker, as an airline pilot with American Airlines, Mr. Burr organized AAmericans United Flag Across America, a tribute to the victims of the September 11th terrorist attacks. Beginning on October 11th, at Boston's Logan Airport, airline employees ran 3,800 miles across the country, carrying an American flag. Their run followed the planned flight paths of American Airlines Flight 11 and United Airlines Flight 175. Nearly 4,000 runners took part in

this remembrance. Proceeds from AAmericans United Flag Across America have gone toward charities helping victims and families of the September 11th attacks.

Mr. Speaker, Michael Burr's tireless efforts on behalf of the AAmericans United Flag Across America were crucial to making this remarkable tribute and fund-raiser a reality. Michael Burr exemplifies the American ideals of freedom, democracy, tolerance and charity toward others. It is people like him who make our Nation the most peaceful and prosperous in the history of mankind. His dedication to honoring the memory of September 11th was extraordinary. I am proud to share a Congressional District with him, and thank him for his charitable works and efforts on behalf of the victims of September 11th.

EXTENDING BIRTHDAY GREETINGS  
AND BEST WISHES TO LIONEL  
HAMPTON

SPEECH OF

**HON. CHARLES B. RANGEL**

OF NEW YORK

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Tuesday, April 16, 2002*

Mr. RANGEL. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to support H. Con. Res. 363 extending birthday greetings and best wishes to Lionel Hampton on the Occasion of his 94th birthday.

I also take great pleasure in not only paying tribute to a great American and renowned jazz artist, but to recognize a constituent, a friend, and a community leader—Lionel Hampton.

Because of the enormous volume of work Lionel Hampton has consistently contributed to the National Endowment of the Arts, only his most outstanding contributions will be listed in these remarks.

Lionel Hampton was the first black musician to perform for a presidential inauguration; President Harry S. Truman in 1949. He also was one of the first black musicians to perform in venues and events previously opened only to white performers, including performances with the Benny Goodman Quartet from 1936–1940.

Mr. Hampton furthered the cause of cultural understanding and international communication. He received a Papal Medallion from Pope Pius XII, the Israel Statehood Award, and served as a Goodwill Ambassador for the United States. He also received the Honor Cross for Science and the Arts, First Class, one of Austria's highest decorations. Lionel Hampton is one of the most recorded artists in the history of jazz.

For decades, Lionel Hampton has worked to perpetuate the art form of jazz by offering his talent, inspiration, and production acumen to the University of Idaho, since 1983. In 1985, the University of Idaho named its school of music after him. He became the first jazz musician to have both a music school and jazz festival named in his honor.

His composition, *Midnight Sun*, became a jazz classic and his two major symphonic works, *The King David Suite* and *Blues Suite*, have been performed by major orchestras throughout the world. Mr. Hampton has received many honors during his distinguished career and has been a frequent guest and performer at the White House.

President Ronald Reagan once conducted a jazz salute to him. In 1992, he received the

Kennedy Center Honors award, and in 1995, he was the focus of a Kennedy Center all-star gala. In 1996, Lionel Hampton's original recording *Flying Home* was entered into the Grammy Hall of Fame. He holds more than 15 honorary doctorate degrees.

As a constituent, Lionel Hampton's talent and fame has not compromised his commitment to community service. He is a long-term supporter of public housing and a staunch advocate for the homeless. In the early 1970s, he developed the Lionel Hampton Housing community and later built the Gladys Hampton Housing community in honor of his late wife. As of this date, those communities are considered to be among the premier public housing communities in the country. The Lionel Hampton Community Development Corporation has built more than 500 low and moderate income apartments in my Congressional District of Harlem alone.

Lionel Hampton's contributions to excellence to the art form of jazz, personal commitment to community development, and outstanding accomplishment to cultural diversity has more than secured his musical genius in the world of jazz. His record and commitment to jazz is unparalleled. His legacy and commitment to excellence, education, and inspiration continue to gain him special recognition as "leader," "genius," and "jazz great."

Lionel Hampton has received numerous awards and commendations by local and State governments, and has received acknowledgments from hundreds of civic and performance groups. It is for these reasons, that it is both an honor as well as a pleasure for me to submit these remarks in the CONGRESSIONAL RECORD in his behalf, for the decades of outstanding service and achievements to this American hero, acclaimed jazz artist, and community activist from my Congressional District.

A JOB WELL DONE

**HON. BARNEY FRANK**

OF MASSACHUSETTS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Tuesday, April 23, 2002*

Mr. FRANK. Mr. Speaker, this current semester marks the last in the tenure of Dr. Adrian Tinsley as President of Bridgewater State College in the Congressional district I have been privileged to represent for the past ten years. Dr. Tinsley came to this very important institution of public higher education on July 1, 1989, and will thus be finishing up 13 years in this difficult and demanding position. She has performed her duties with enormous skill and grace and she will be very deeply missed by a multiple of constituencies. Her fellow administrators, the faculty, most importantly of course the students who have been educated under her tenure, her fellow administrators of higher education elsewhere in Massachusetts, and the people of the Greater Bridgewater community whose interest she has advanced by her effective administration of this important institution all regret her leaving, even as we all acknowledge that she has earned a dozen times over the right to a little rest and relaxation. This is not to say that she will no longer be an active and committed member of the intellectual and educational community, but few jobs can equal the Presidency of a major pub-

lic institution of higher education today in terms of the demands made on those who hold this position.

Bridgewater State is one of the oldest such institutions in our country, and has a long tradition of preparing teachers. Recently it has broadened its mission even while maintaining its commitment to the training of educators, and Adrian Tinsley has significantly advanced the college's academic curriculum by adding important new programs in economics, criminal justice, public administration and management science and provided strong leadership in the implementation of advanced technology for teaching and learning.

Indeed Mr. Speaker, thanks to Dr. Tinsley's leadership, the college today has three new Schools created during her presidency, the School of Arts and Sciences, the School of Education and Allied Studies, and the School of Management and Aviation Science.

Mr. Speaker, one highlight of Adrian Tinsley's tenure was the work she did with our greatly admired and respected colleague the late Joe Moakley, who represented this district during the 80s and early 90s before redistricting moved it. One of their joint legacies is the state of the art John Joseph Moakley Center for Technological Applications, which is a great source of intellectual and economic strength for the entire region, not just for the college where it is located. Indeed Mr. Speaker, in cooperation with members of the state legislative delegation from Southeastern Massachusetts, Adrian Tinsley has helped BSC become a vital resource for the Southeastern Massachusetts region with outreach programs that serve the public and private sectors.

Adrian Tinsley has presided over significant growth at Bridgewater State College, and she has done so in a way that has not allowed dilution of the spirit of collegiality that is so important for an institution of higher education. I join with all of those whose lives she has touched with her excellent work in congratulating her and telling her how grateful we are on the occasion of her moving on.

MAYOR WINDY SITTON LEAVES  
MARK ON LUBBOCK LANDSCAPE

**HON. LARRY COMBEST**

OF TEXAS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Tuesday, April 23, 2002*

Mr. COMBEST. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to call my colleagues' attention to the tireless dedication and tremendous accomplishments of Lubbock Mayor Windy Sitton. Mayor Sitton, the first female mayor of Lubbock, TX, began her political career as a city councilwoman in Lubbock in 1994. Mayor Sitton will focus her public service efforts on her new role as member of the Texas Higher Education Coordinating Board when her current term as mayor expires next month. I have every confidence that all Texans will benefit from her new endeavor as those in Lubbock have while she has been their city council representative and mayor.

Mayor Sitton earned a bachelor of science degree in education from North Texas State University in 1966. She also has earned a master of art degree in counseling from Texas Women's University in 1971. She received the prestigious honor of "Distinguished Alumni"

from Texas Women's University in 1997. Mayor Sitton is married to Frank and has one son, John, and two grandchildren.

Before entering public office, Mayor Sitton taught High School English for 10 years and was a high school counselor for more than 7 years. During her public service in Lubbock, Mayor Sitton has helped foster a more cooperative spirit among business, education, and government, which created a stronger and more diversified economy in Lubbock. During her service as mayor, she also supported the adoption of the Ports-to-Plains Corridor, which will link Lubbock to an internationally important trade route and provide Lubbock and the West Texas region with continued economic growth. She also was instrumental in forming the Community Relations Commission and the Youth Commission, which have opened dialogues to address complex community issues. Mayor Sitton's accomplishments have reached far into her community affecting numerous local government services Lubbock residents receive, including the areas of parks, police training, firefighting, libraries, sanitation, economic development, race relations, and establishing a much needed drainage system that better protects Lubbock residents and their property.

Mayor Sitton's achievements have been met with accolades at the local and state level. Some of her notable recognitions include designation as the Best Business Leader in 2000 by the Lubbock Avalanche-Journal, a recipient of the Women of Excellence Award in 2000, and the "Woman of Distinction" Award in 1997 by the Leadership Texas Hall of Fame.

Her desire to help more women enter the political arena and take advantage of community service opportunities can only be benefitted from the example Mayor Sitton has given through her successes in public office. Mayor Sitton exemplifies the positive impact women can have in the political arena.

I would like to extend to Mayor Sitton my thanks for her generous service to the city of Lubbock, and my sincerest best wishes in all her future endeavors.

IN HONOR OF WEEK OF THE  
YOUNG CHILD AND PROJECT  
HEAD START

**HON. ROBERT MENENDEZ**

OF NEW JERSEY

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Tuesday, April 23, 2002*

Mr. MENENDEZ. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize the Week of the Young Child, and commemorate the 37th Anniversary of Project Head Start. A luncheon to honor Jersey City's community leaders was held by the Jersey City Child Development Centers, Inc., Wednesday, April 17, 2002, in Jersey City, New Jersey.

Week of the Young Child, April 7–13, 2002, provides us with the opportunity to reflect on the importance of providing our children with strong foundations; a successful start leads to a successful future. And with the help of parental involvement and the guidance from child care professionals, our youngest citizens can look forward to a future full of opportunity.

A national early childhood development program, Project Head Start, focuses on parental involvement and provides education, health,

nutrition, and psychological, and social development services. Eight million children and their families across the United States enjoy a brighter future thanks to Project Head Start. Under the direction of Esther G. Lee, Jersey City Head Start serves 875 children and their families in fifteen centers.

Today, I ask my colleagues to join me in honoring Week of the Young Child and Project Head Start; the well being of our nation depends on the livelihood of our children. Thank you to the community leaders that dedicate themselves to these outstanding programs.

IN RECOGNITION OF THE 50TH AN-  
NIVERSARY OF CARNIVAL IN  
THE U.S. VIRGIN ISLANDS

**HON. DONNA M. CHRISTENSEN**

OF VIRGIN ISLANDS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Tuesday, April 23, 2002*

Mrs. CHRISTENSEN. Mr. Speaker, I rise today, to commend the people of the Virgin Islands on occasion of the fiftieth year of Carnival in the U.S. Virgin Islands. This yearlong observance is an important and historic time for all of us because not only is it Carnival's Golden Anniversary but also is an affirmation that our culture is vibrant and strong. This Golden Jubilee promises to be one of our grandest celebrations, the one currently taking place this week on St. Thomas and the Crucian Christmas Fiesta on St. Croix in December which will complete our year-long observance of Virgin Islands culture at its finest. The road to this Golden Jubilee was long and difficult surviving over the years with the help of so many talented minds and hands that have made this all possible.

Impressed with a Carnival in Rio de Janeiro, Brazil in 1911, Adolph "Ding" Sixto brought the idea back to the Virgin Islands and became the inspiration of the first St. Thomas Carnival that was held on Valentine's Day February 14, 1912. A Carnival King, Valdemar Miller and Carnival Queen Cassilda Durbo reigned over that event of pomp and pageantry. Carnival revelry included donkey, bicycle and boat races, greased pig catching, greased pole, confetti battles, Dixieland plantation life, comedic skits, a regal torchlight procession and masquerading throughout Charlotte Amalie. This event was repeated in 1914 with the royalty being King Lt. Knudsen and Queen Amie LaBeet.

Unfortunately, with the advent of World War I, Carnival came to an abrupt halt. Inspired by Albert "Happy Holiday" Halliday, an editorial by Rufus Martin in the Virgin Islands Daily News 38 years later, suggested the need to revitalize Carnival. Radio personality Mango Jones (former Virgin Islands Delegate to Congress, Ron DeLugo) echoed the call to "Let's have a Carnival." A committee headed by Eldra Shulterbrandt put together the first revitalized festival. The focus was on the parade of Masqueraders led by a cavalcade of men and women on horseback adorned in uniform procession.

That day and for years after, Carnival started out from Frenchtown. This particular Carnival and that first Road March was the frame from which the novel "Don't Stop The Carnival" by Herman Wouk emerged. The Book of the Month Club made it a featured selec-

tion; it received critical acclaim from the New York Times and because a national bestseller. Carnival royalty that year were Leo Sibilly and Carmen Nicholson. In those early years, royalty was selected solely on number of votes sold. By the 1960s, a competition to judge poise, grace and beauty replaced the votes sold criteria. Since 1952, Carnival Queens, and in some years, Kings, reigned over this large and colorfully cultural event.

Road marches were introduced in 1952 when amidst heavy rain, the Duke of Iron, a Calypsonian from Trinidad and Tobago, spot-composed and started to sing Rain Don't Stop the Carnival. Like a contagion, everyone took up the strains and braved the weather to the song in the mile-long procession. Many of the revelers were in paper type colorful costumes that were ruined by the heavy downpour. The high spirits of these masqueraders were not dampened by the rains. It only served to driving them forward into 48 years of Carnival.

Though the first steel band came to St. Thomas in 1949, Casablanca, Hell's Gate and Bute Force steelbands came in from nearby islands, Antigua and St. Kitts to participate in the revived Carnival in 1952. It is from these groups, the first local steel bands including the Lincoln School, the Molyneaux All Girls and the Charlotte Amalie High School (CAHS) Shooting Stars steelbands were organized. Names like Lezmore Emanuel and Alfred Lockhart are pioneers of the early local steelband movement. By the 1970s, steelbands had diminished to the extent that by the mid 1970s, through the efforts of Glenn 'Kawabena' Davis, Bingley Richardson and his troupe Cavalcade Africana, steelbands such as the Harmonites, Superstars and Halcyon were brought in from Antigua. For several years, as many as four steelbands were hosted each Carnival season in areas on St. Thomas such as Polyberg, Frenchtown, and Mandahl. By the 1990s, through the effort of former Presiding Judge Verne A. Hodge and the Virgin Islands Territorial Court sponsored Rising Stars Youth Steel Orchestra, steelbands made a dramatic return and dominated Carnival in the 1990s more than in any other decade.

The Prince and Princess were made a part of Carnival Royalty in 1953, the first being former Governor Roy L. Schneider, M.D., and Dr. Gwen Moolenaar. On a few occasions, there were only Princesses. The Carnival Village, like the Food Fair, became an institution of Carnival by 1957 serving up a plethora of delicacies and cuisine representing the ethnic diversity of the Virgin Islands. In this same year, Carnival was viewed as a Virgin Islands festival when Crucian, Melba Canegata was crowned Queen of Carnival. The village was first in the parking lot directly south of Emancipation Garden. It has been in Lionel Roberts Stadium, on the Waterfront and since the early 1970s, it has been housed in the Fort Christian Parking Lot where 39 booths are placed offering an unmatched variety of culinary pleasure. The Carnival Village stage was increased from 22'x22' to 40'x40'. Since 1985, the village has been named in honor of someone who has made significant contributions to Carnival, the first being Christian's Court in 1985 in honor of Judge Alphonso Christian, a former Chairman of Carnival.

Initially, the Carnival Food Fair was dominated by foods, locally grown fruits, vegetables and plants and drinks. Arts and Craft

came later. Since food dominates this event, it is now called the "Food Fair." This event also gives recognition to persons who have contributed to the advancement of Carnival. From as far back as 1987 persons have been singled out starting with Horatio Millin Sr., a noted farmer and fair participant. The Fair was conducted on Tuesdays, then moved to Carnival Thursday. In 1996, the fair was moved to Wednesday to avoid conflict with J'ouvert, which is held on early Thursday morning of Carnival Week.

The first Virgin Islander to win an international Calypso competition was Calypso Bombshell, (Beryl Hill) in 1954 against Caribbean renowned artists such as Zebra, Duke of Iron, and Lord Melody. The only locals to hold that distinction since are Lord Blakie (Kenneth Blake), 1979 and Mighty Potter (Cecil Potter), 1980. The local calypso competition was conducted sporadically in the 1960's at the then Center Theater and later CAHS Auditorium. Names such as Lord Blakie, Mighty Bird, and Lord Sausage dominated that period. It was institutionalized in 1973, the first sovereigns being Mighty Lark and Ferrari. The current sovereign is St. Clair "Whadablee" DaSilva. The competition was renamed the Virgin Islands Calypso Competition about the mid 1980s and several calypsonians from St. Croix have won or were runners-up in the finals since their involvement. In the mid 1970s local Calypso tents were organized to select through the process of elimination, a field of 10 finalists for the local calypso competition. Today, almost 100 contenders perform in several tents hoping to be among the finalists and sovereign who holds the distinction of musical hero of Carnival. The oldest active Calypso Tent is the "Sanctum of Wisdom and Fun."

The inspirational mono of 1952, now called the Carnival theme, was "Roast-a-time & Bamboushay." Carnival themes were institutionalized in the 1970s. "Unity in '73" is the earliest recorded since '52.

Since 1952, the Gypsy Troupe, founded by the late Gertrude Lockhart Dudley Melchoir, and others, as well as the Traditional Indians have participated in every Carnival parade. I salute the organizers and members of these two long-standing organizations and thank them for keeping their tradition going for 50 years.

One event that has remained popular from its inception is Brass-O-Rama, now renamed, "Band-O-Rama" to include bands that do not have brass instruments. Formally a part of Carnival since 1980, Mandingo Brass was the first winner. This event started utilizing local bands but has expanded to involve bands from around the region. What used to be called Warm Up Morning when the Carnival was revived in 1952 was reintroduced as J'ouvert on Carnival Friday, 1973. The early risers would be adorned as in masquerade fashion, cross-dressing and sleepwear. Then they take to the streets reveling from 4:00 AM until it's time for the Children's Parade. Because the bands would be engaged earlier, then subsequently ready themselves to participate in J'ouvert, they would be tired to continue on in the Children's Parade. Thus, that parade suffered from a lack of live music, J'ouvert was eventually moved to Thursdays in 1996 to ensure live music for the children.

The full week of international Calypso Tents was reduced to two nights and the World Calypso King was dropped in 1986. In recent

years, Calypsonians from across the region can be enjoyed rather than just performers from Trinidad. Cultural Night is a free event night that goes back to the 1960's where a variety of Quadrille groups backed up by the fungi bands performed the seven figures of flat German Quadrille and other European dances such as Lancers, Seven Step, Two-step Mazurka, Skottiche and more.

Names such as Magnus "Mongo" Niles, Lucille Roberts and Moses Baptiste can still be heard rolling off the cultural memory scrolls. Today Cultural Night also features Bamboula Dancers, Quelbe, Merengue and the highlight is the King and Queen of the Band competition in Junior and Adult categories. On this night, the first glimpse of the troupe's most elaborate male and female costumes are on grand exhibition. The most recorded winners by any adult entry is William "Champagne" Chandler (King) and Arah Lockhart (Queen) and Alrid Lockhart, Jr. (Jr. King) and Ambi Lockhart (Junior Queen) in the children's category.

In 1977, our Carnival was graced with the presence of the late Esther Rolle of television fame for her role as a strong willed but sweet mother in the sitcom "Good Times."

In 1986, in response to Irving "Brownie" Brown's call, this author started the Quelbe Tramp. It features persons playing acoustical instruments such as guitar, ukulele, guiro, triangle, "donkey" pipe, tambourines, maracas, bottles, cans, and anything that can make rhythmic noise. Those who are not playing an instrument, sing as they tramp up Main Street. This tramp brings out from senior citizens to toddlers in strollers, spanning as many as five generations, dancing from Market Square to Carnival Village. It has been conducted on Carnival Wednesdays past but now starts around 8 p.m. on Carnival Tuesday following the Pre-Teen Tramp. On occasion, steel bands have added a level of grandeur to the Tramp.

In 1989, the Carnival Committee opened its first office after years of Operating from trunks of cars of the various Chairpersons, or from the workstations of the Chairperson of a given tenure. Today, an Executive Director with an Administrative Officer who coordinates and facilitates the efforts of the 29 Committees and activity centers of Carnival mans the office. The Virgin Islands Carnival Office is located on Kronprindsens Gade in the heart of downtown Charlotte Amalie. Since the establishment of this office, it has become the authority on revising operating procedures throughout the Caribbean. On any given day, a number of phone calls would be made to this office from other Caribbean committees seeking ways to improve the way they function.

The Virgin Islands Carnival's greatest impact was realized when the sequel to the movie "Weekend At Bernie's" was scheduled to be filmed entirely in the Virgin Islands and they wanted a Carnival scene. The Carnival parade scene which lasted over five minutes of the final scene, was a spirited climax of the movie titled "Weekend at Bernie's II."

Fifty years later, Carnival is still the single largest display of all aspects of Virgin Islands culture. This Golden Jubilee is a celebration of our struggles and triumphs as a people, and a sign that there is much more pageantry, creativity, camaraderie and tradition to be seen and to share with the rest of the world. May God bless the Virgin Islands of the United

States of America, our Nation and us all. Happy 50th Carnival Anniversary!

A TRIBUTE TO MAS AND MARCIA  
HASHIMOTO

**HON. SAM FARR**

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Tuesday, April 23, 2002*

Mr. FARR of California. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize and honor the contributions made by two longtime community leaders. Mas and Marcia Hashimoto have been working tirelessly for years to educate our local communities about the World War II incarceration of Japanese and Japanese Americans.

Mas and Marcia created the idea of "Liberty Lost . . . Lessons in Loyalty", a re-enactment of the incarceration of Japanese and Japanese Americans and inspired in the larger community a call to action to commemorate an event of enormous historical significance to the Pajaro Valley and the United States. "Liberty Lost . . . Lessons in Loyalty" honors those incarcerated as well as those who, in single acts of kindness and compassion bravely and generously supported the internees. It also has captured the courageous stories and memories of Japanese and Japanese Americans incarcerated during WWII in a series of invaluable oral history recordings that will forever be treasured. "Liberty Lost . . . Lessons in Loyalty" educates the entire community about the dangers of wartime hysteria and racism and serves as a forum from which new cross cultural understanding of alliances may be formed.

Mas and Marcia are recognized community leaders and have each served as the president of the Watsonville-Santa Cruz JACL and where, in their capacity as leaders, they have encouraged, motivated, and inspired all with which they have worked. Mas and Marcia Hashimoto have greatly contributed to the strength and vitality of the Watsonville-Santa Cruz JACL, the Japanese American community, and to the Pajaro Valley. As a team, Mas and Marcia have shared their lives, their warmth and enthusiasm, and their energy and passion in creating "Liberty Lost . . . Lessons in Loyalty." Their work, and this project, shall be forever cherished for all to remember.

IN SUPPORT OF THE LIFE INSURANCE  
EMPLOYEE NOTIFICATION  
ACT

**HON. GENE GREEN**

OF TEXAS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Tuesday, April 23, 2002*

Mr. GREEN of Texas. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to introduce the Life Insurance Employee Notification Act or the LIEN Act for short.

As a strong supporter of the American worker, I am here on the floor introducing legislation to stop American companies from profiting in the deaths of their employees.

A recent article in the Houston Chronicle brought to my attention a business practice involving employers purchasing secret life insurance policies on their employees without their knowledge or consent.

These policies are known as Corporate-owned Life Insurance or COLI.

Unfortunately, they also have another name, "dead peasant policies."

They are called dead peasant policies because these Corporate-owned Life Insurance policies are usually purchased for the rank-and file employees and not the CEO, CFO, or the Board of Directors.

Executive Insurance is the norm in corporate America and I have no problem with that because it is disclosed to investors and the individual.

Dead peasant policies, on the other hand, are not disclosed to the low-level employee because he or she is not eligible to collect the death benefit.

This failure to notify the ownership of the death benefit is the crux of the problem.

American companies are purchasing secret life insurance on the chanced that one of their employees dies and they can collect the six figure death benefit.

These companies have created a death derivative.

In a large company with thousands of employees, economic modeling can be done to predict how many policies will be collected on in a given year.

This blood money can be used for whatever the company wants, but most importantly it is rarely used to compensate the families of the dead employee.

While I find the use of life insurance in this manner offensive, I understand it is not illegal and is in fact condoned in many states; Texas is not one of them.

The LIEN Act is a sunshine bill that forces companies to disclose to the employee that a dead peasant policy has been purchased in their name.

In addition, it requires the company to provide the name of the insurer, the benefit amount, and under whose name the policy is in.

I do not want to ban this practice, but simply provide workers with more information about what the employer is doing on their behalf.

As we saw with Enron, corporations often do not provide pertinent financial information to their employees.

I am frankly disgusted with this whole practice and am amazed that this all began as a simple tax dodge worth billions of dollars.

In the mid 1990s, the Internal Revenue Service (IRS) disallowed the classification of these policies as a legitimate business expense for the purpose of reducing their federal tax obligation.

I urge my colleagues to cosponsor this important legislation to protect all hard working Americans from dead peasant insurance.

IN HONOR OF ST. JOSEPH'S DAY AND THE DOWNRIVER ITALIAN-AMERICAN CLUB

**HON. DAVID E. BONIOR**

OF MICHIGAN

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Tuesday, April 23, 2002*

Mr. BONIOR. Mr. Speaker, as members of the Downriver Italian-American Club gathered together to celebrate St. Joseph's Day, they celebrated a feast day cherished by Italians and Italian-Americans everywhere. Honoring

the patron saint of families, working men, social justice, and the church, St. Joseph is remembered in the Catholic tradition as the husband of Mary and the earthly father of Jesus Christ. Celebrated across the villages of Italy on March 19th as a day of feast, the traditions of St. Joseph's Day continue to be honored by families outside of Italy by sharing the blessings of food, family, and good fortune with those in need.

Our nation's estimated 25 million Italian-Americans from all walks of life have left a permanent and undeniable mark on the history of America. From Alphonse de Tonty, the co-founder of Detroit, Michigan to Mother Frances Cabrini, the first American to be canonized, Italian-Americans have contributed in countless ways to the greatness of this country. Today, the strong relationship between the United States and Italy is a testament to the countless immigrants from Italy who made America their home generations ago.

Here in Michigan, the seeds of the Downriver Italian-American Club were planted when Joseph Menna of Trenton and Salvatore DiPasquale of Wyandotte visualized an Italian club inclusive of all the downriver communities in the fall of 1970. One year later, on April 28, 1971, with just 41 members and a slate of officers, they celebrated the chartered birth of the Downriver Italian-American Club and began a tradition for generations to come. Today, with a seventeen-member Board of Directors and social, civic, and entertainment committees, the Downriver Italian-American Club is a thriving center of language, culture, music, and social events. With over 500 members, communities are able to join together and celebrate Italian culture, traditions, food and wine. Joyfully celebrating St. Joseph's Day, the Downriver Italian-American Club continues to bring the traditions of Italian culture and customs to families across Michigan.

Italian Americans are an integral part of this nation's success. As Italians and Italian-Americans celebrate the holiday commemorating St. Joseph, we join them in their tribute and honor the contributions Americans of Italian descent have made to our great country.

IN RECOGNITION OF NATIONAL VOLUNTEER WEEK

**HON. J. DENNIS HASTERT**

OF ILLINOIS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Tuesday, April 23, 2002*

Mr. HASTERT. Mr. Speaker, I rise today at the start of National Volunteer Week to recognize the invaluable contributions of volunteers to communities across the nation.

From the earliest days of our Nation's history, the spirit of volunteer service has been reflected by neighbors helping one another to overcome obstacles in the pursuit of happiness. The freedom and individual rights at the core of our society come from a shared responsibility for the health and well being of our communities and for each other.

National Volunteer Week is a time to recognize and celebrate the efforts of volunteers who play such an integral part in creating a sense of community and shared responsibility for our future. This year's National Volunteer Week theme, "Celebrate the American Spirit—VOLUNTEER!" is particularly appropriate as

we continue to witness the outpouring of contributions and compassion following the September 11 terrorist attacks. By celebrating the volunteer spirit, we can show the world that helping is healing for our country and can encourage men, women, and children to help make positive changes in the lives of others.

Volunteerism not only improves the lives of others, it builds a sense of community, breaks down barriers between people and develops leadership skills. Americans, young and old alike, can and do play important roles in our communities. For as long as the American people volunteer their time for the benefit of their neighbors, America's community spirit will continue to hold tremendous promise for the future.

IN RECOGNITION OF FIRST ANNUAL NATIONAL HEALTHCARE VOLUNTEER DAY

**HON. TAMMY BALDWIN**

OF WISCONSIN

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Tuesday, April 23, 2002*

Ms. BALDWIN. Mr. Speaker, I rise today in recognition of the first annual National Healthcare Volunteer Day, which occurred on Monday, April 22, 2002, during National Volunteer Week. This day was created to recognize the time and effort that many volunteers contribute in healthcare settings and was initiated and supported by the American Society of Directors of Volunteer Services, a national association of managers of healthcare volunteers, and the American Hospital Association.

The hope for this celebration is that through an annual recognition, the accomplishments of volunteers serving the needs of patients, residents, families, visitors, physicians, and staff may be publicized and commended.

I am proud to say that Reedsburg Area Medical Center, located in my district, was an enthusiastic participant in kicking off the annual National Healthcare Volunteers celebration!

I congratulate Reedsburg Area Medical Center on its participation in this day as well as the celebration of its 100th anniversary. I am proud to recognize both this medical center and the first annual National Healthcare Volunteer Day!

PROTECTING AMERICAN INDIAN AND ALASKA NATIVE SACRED LANDS

**HON. FRANK PALLONE, JR.**

OF NEW JERSEY

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Tuesday, April 23, 2002*

Mr. PALLONE. Mr. Speaker, as a member of the Congressional Native American Caucus, I rise today in strong support of H.R. 2085, the Valley of Chiefs Native American Sacred Site Preservation Act, which would safeguard an area very sacred to a number of Indian tribes, and ask that my colleagues support this bill as well. In addition, I want to comment on the need to protect other threatened American Indian and Alaska Native (AI/AN) sacred lands.

Our many democratic forums establish an opportunity for discussions to take place to

better understand the social, economic, legal, and political complexity of AI/AN realities, before related legislation is brought to the House floor for a vote. As congressional history demonstrates, the decisions to make as Representatives can either positively or negatively impact AI/AN people, and their nations, tribes, bands, villages, and communities.

For example, between 1887 and 1934, the U.S. Government took over 90 million acres of land from American Indians without compensation—including sacred lands. More recently, between 1945 and 1968, Congress decided that Federal recognition and assistance to more than 100 tribes should be terminated. This termination policy created economic disaster for many American Indians, and their nations, resulting in millions of acres of valuable natural resource land being lost through tax forfeiture sales. This is a primary reason why AI/AN families have the biggest poverty level of any group in the country, at a rate of 31 percent on some Indian reservations.

By holding hearings on the impact of legislation related to American Indians and Alaska Natives, Congress moved to rectify its prior decisions by passing self-determination and self-governance policies. As a result of such policies, AI/AN nations and villages have greater control over their lands and resources. They have made great strides toward reversing the economic blight that resulted from previous Federal policies, and have revived their unique cultures and nations.

Congress must withstand pressure from those individuals and groups that call for back tracking to old AI/AN policies, such as termination and reduction of AI/AN sovereign rights. We must acknowledge and learn from our mistakes, and not repeat them in the future because AI/AN nations and people are relying upon our commitments.

The United States Constitution recognizes that American Indian Nations are sovereign governments. Hundreds of treaties, the Supreme Court, the President, and the Congress have repeatedly affirmed that Indian nations retain their inherent powers of self-government. In addition, the U.S. Government is committed to a trustee relationship with the Indian nations. This trust relationship requires the Federal Government to exercise the highest degree of care with tribal and Indian lands and resources.

Sacred lands, and ceremonies associated with those lands, are a necessary expression of AI/AN spirituality, and often are key to individual and collective wellness. This necessity is situated deep in the ancient history of these Indian nations and maintains a prominent place in the fact-based stories hand down from one generation to another. Since the coming of the Europeans to these shores in the late 14th century, these sacred lands have been subject to intrusion and disturbance as settlers laid claim to lands of the AI/AN people.

In 1978, Congress passed the American Indian Religious Freedom Act, recognizing the necessity of upholding the protection of AI/AN spirituality within the ambit of the religious freedom guaranteed by the first amendment to the United States Constitution. Unfortunately, litigation in the courts since then to safeguard sacred lands, and the ceremonies associated with those lands, has for the most part been unsuccessful.

Rather than safeguard sacred lands, these cases have upheld multiple intrusions upon

them and maintained a history of subordination of AI/AN spirituality to the interests of dominating groups. Federal Government representatives, leaders of historic religions, and judiciary members must develop more tolerance and expand their definitions of what constitutes a proper sacred place.

Culture and legal scholar, Davis Mayberry-Lewis, writes:

American Indian religions consider the earth as sacred, whereas the secular culture that surrounds them considers the earth to be real estate. It is hard for the strong to give up their ingrained habit of overpowering the weak, but it is essential if we are to make multiethnic societies like our own work with a minimum of civility.

Anthropologist Elizabeth Brandt states:

The free practice of many Indian religions requires privacy and undisturbed access to culturally and religiously significant sites and their resources. It is irrevocably tied to specific places in the world which derive their power and sacred character from their natural undisturbed state.

Ultimately, how free are we, really, if the first religions of our great country cannot be protected? I also ask you, what if, despite your objections to the contrary, your spiritual place was being bulldozed for economic activity or spiked for scaling purposes? How would you feel, what would you think and what would you do?

Therefore I strongly support H.R. 2085, the Valley of Chiefs Native American Sacred Site Preservation Act, which would safeguard an area very sacred to a number of Indian tribes, and ask that my colleagues support this bill as well.

I also call for additional Sacred Land legislation to be developed in consultation with Indian Country. Furthermore, the establishment of a governmentwide, effective, and comprehensive procedure that safeguards the loss of further AI/AN sacred lands must be enacted. We must move swiftly in conjunction with AI/AN nations before more sacred lands, such as Mt. Shasta and Medicine Lake of California, Devil's Tower, and Black Hills of South Dakota, to name a few, are further desecrated and damaged.

IN HONOR OF DR. EUGENE CARL  
STROBEL

**HON. DAVID E. BONIOR**

OF MICHIGAN

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Tuesday, April 23, 2002*

Mr. BONIOR. Mr. Speaker, the German-American Heritage Foundation International gathered for their 6th Annual Dinner and Musical Cabaret on April 6, 2002, to celebrate an evening of music, culture, and the life of Dr. Eugene Carl Strobel. Dr. Strobel was a man who touched the lives of so many in this community, who was devoted to his family and his community. Dr. Strobel's memory will continue to be remembered and cherished after his passing from this earth on November 21, 2001.

One of southeastern Michigan's unsung heroes, Dr. Strobel was always a leader and an activist in his community. As a family man, university teacher, administrator, and an activist in humanitarian causes his entire life, Dr. Strobel's contributions left an indelible impres-

sion on us all. As one of the founders of Detroit's Wayne County Community College, an administrator at both Eastern Michigan University and Lawrence Technological University, and a pioneer of televised credit courses on WTVS-TV, Dr. Strobel's dedication to education was unparalleled. A true civil rights advocate and activist for so many humanitarian causes, Dr. Strobel devoted his life to working for peace and equality in his community and beyond.

Finally, Dr. Strobel demonstrated outstanding commitment to his German heritage and worked tirelessly to bring together the German American community. As founding president of the German American Heritage Foundation International, Dr. Strobel worked tirelessly to organize programs and actively support several committees to promote German culture and traditions. Bringing together members of the German American community, Dr. Strobel was instrumental in coordinating projects with the German Consulate, the German American Chamber of Commerce, DaimlerChrysler, and many other businesses and corporations.

Dr. Strobel has always given 100 percent in every aspect of his life; his work, his community, his family, and his friends. Those who had the pleasure of knowing him and the benefit of working with him will continue to remember him as a dedicated, faithful friend. He will truly be missed.

I invite my colleagues to please join me in paying tribute to one of the most influential citizens of southeastern Michigan, and saluting him for his exemplary years of care and service.

TRIBUTE TO MADELEINE H.  
BERMAN

**HON. SANDER M. LEVIN**

OF MICHIGAN

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Tuesday, April 23, 2002*

Mr. LEVIN. Mr. Speaker, I ask my colleagues to rise today to recognize Madeleine H. Berman, as the Detroit Zoological Society establishes the Madeleine Berman Academy for Humane Education. The Academy has been established in recognition of both a generous grant from the Mandell L. and Madeleine H. Berman Support Foundation and Madeleine "Madge" Berman's lifelong commitment to the promotion of the Arts and Humanities.

Madge is a Detroit native, who has worked tirelessly on behalf of the Arts in Metro Detroit, the State of Michigan and, indeed, the Nation. She was a pioneer in the establishment of a number of activities and organizations, both locally and state-wide, now recognized as "institutions" of our art community. As a member of New Detroit's Arts Committee, she helped establish the first Detroit Arts Council and served as one of the seven original members of that board. She pioneered efforts for the Legendary WTVS Public Television Auction and she participated in creating the Friends of WDET, Detroit Public Radio. She served for almost a decade on the Michigan Council of the Arts.

In 1984, President Clinton appointed her to the President's Committee for the Arts and Humanities. In addition to many other boards,

she presently serves on the Board of the Michigan Humane Society where she works with public schools in humane educational work.

Madge's most recent endeavor wonderfully melds her concern for the animals that share our world, her focus on involving children in creative efforts, and her background in the Arts. The Madeleine Berman Academy for Humane Education seeks to provide a forum, through innovative educational programs and creative activities, where children can explore and learn to respect the intricate connections between animals and humans.

I know my colleagues join me in celebrating and honoring Madge's admirable endeavors. Her husband, Bill Berman, has been a bright beacon of community involvement and philanthropic work. Together, they have tremendously enriched our communities and the lives of countless children. We know that their work will endure for many years to come.

IN RECOGNITION OF THE AMERICA  
IN BLOOM PROGRAM

**HON. J. DENNIS HASTERT**

OF ILLINOIS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Tuesday, April 23, 2002*

Mr. HASTERT. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize the important contribution of the America in Bloom program to communities across the nation.

America in Bloom is a national beautification contest that began last year with the participation of four cities across the United States. This unique program helps to foster community involvement, patriotism and civic pride through the challenge of a friendly competition between participating communities across the country. The contest is judged on the basis of eight categories, including tidiness, environmental awareness, heritage, urban forestry, landscaped area, floral displays, turf and ground cover areas and, most importantly, community involvement.

This year, the contest will again provide communities with a forum to increase civic pride and community involvement through the challenge of a national evaluation. The program has registered almost thirty communities to date, including Batavia, Illinois, which I am proud to represent.

It is my hope that more communities will take part in this program as it brings together citizens of all ages, municipal governments and local organizations to work collectively for the visual improvement of America's parks, neighborhoods, open spaces and streets. This can only encourage the preservation of our collective heritage and culture while creating a sense of unity and pride among citizens.

IN HONOR OF REVEREND DR. JOHN  
L. PRATT, SR.

**HON. EDOLPHUS TOWNS**

OF NEW YORK

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Tuesday, April 23, 2002*

Mr. TOWNS. Mr. Speaker, I rise in honor of Reverend Dr. John L. Pratt, Sr. in recognition of his 25th Pastoral Anniversary.

Reverend Dr. John L. Pratt, Sr. was born in Fredericksburg, Virginia. He graduated from Walker-Grant High School and attended Storer College in Harpers Ferry, WVA, where he majored in education. He went on to receive his graduate degree from the Bible Institute and American Divinity School also earning a B.A. Degree and Doctorate of Theology.

When Rev. Dr. Pratt was elected pastor of Zion Shiloh Baptist Church, he told the congregation, "I accept the challenge" and he continues to "accept the challenge" as he remains there to this day. Rev. Dr. Pratt will quickly tell you that his greatest reward is working for the Lord. Among his many accomplishments since arriving at the Church, he has led his congregation to a new church building.

In addition, to his work on behalf of the church, the wider church community has also recognized him. He is a past recording secretary for Progressive National Baptist Convention, past moderator of the New York Missionary Association, member of the Advisory Board of Community Board #2, member of Cumberland Community Board, past Secretary of Moderator's Department of the Progressive National Baptist Convention, member of the Hampton Ministers Conference Board, member of the Fort Greene Support and Rescue Group, Instructor for New York Missionary Baptist Association of Ministers and newly elected President of the Brooklyn Council of Churches and many others.

Rev. Dr. Pratt is married to Mrs. Gertrude Pratt. They are blessed with two sons; Leo C. Pratt and John L. Pratt, Jr.; a daughter in law, Michelle and a loving grandson, Leo Sterling Pratt.

Mr. Speaker, Rev. Dr. John L. Pratt, Sr. has been accepting the challenge as the pastor of Zion Shiloh Baptist Church for twenty-five years and is still telling everyone to "Keep Praying, Caring, Loving and . . ." for God answers all prayers. As such, he is more than worthy of receiving this recognition and I urge my colleagues to join me in honoring this truly remarkable man of God.

HONORING TONY J. SIRVELLO ON  
HIS RETIREMENT

**HON. GENE GREEN**

OF TEXAS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Tuesday, April 23, 2002*

Mr. GREEN of Texas. Mr. Speaker, on June 30, 2002, Harris County Elections Administrator Tony Sirvello will retire after overseeing the local electoral process for more than two decades. Tony has been a constant in the elections office for a majority of my political career, and I want to congratulate him on a job well done.

Tony has been a life-long resident of Houston. He graduated from St. Thomas High School and then earned a bachelor's degree and a law degree from the University of Houston. He also served in the United States Army and was awarded the Army Commendation Medal.

In June 1973, he began to work for Harris County, and in October 1980, he was promoted to the position of Supervisor of Elections. In a time in our nation's history when more and more Americans do not vote, Tony

has taken significant steps to ensure that everyone has an opportunity to vote.

He has had a distinguished career. He has attended every single Texas Secretary of State Seminar for Election Officials since the very first one. He is a member of the Federal Elections Commission Advisory Panel on Election Administration. He is a member of the International Association of Clerks, Recorders, Election Officials and Treasurers. He helped organize South African absentee voting in Houston. He helped organize Russian absentee voting in Houston. And, he was the first election official in the United States to email a ballot to a NASA Astronaut on the space station.

Mr. Speaker, I ask my colleagues in the House of Representatives to join me in honoring and congratulating Tony J. Sirvello on his retirement. Tony, we wish you well.

TRIBUTE TO THE PHILIPPINE  
AMERICAN COMMUNITY CENTER  
OF MICHIGAN

**HON. DAVID E. BONIOR**

OF MICHIGAN

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Tuesday, April 23, 2002*

Mr. BONIOR. Mr. Speaker, today I rise to recognize the Philippine American community of Michigan, who celebrated the historic unveiling of "Philippine Street", the newly renamed home of the Philippine American Community Center on April 19, 2002.

As Michigan is home to a thriving Philippine American population and Asian American community, we have the opportunity to recognize the accomplishments and contributions of a fabulous people. They possess a focused vision of their future and will do all they feel is necessary to ensure prosperity.

Today, the United States is enriched by the many Philippine Americans who have made this country their home. As the second largest Asian group in the United States, Philippine Americans are making their mark, serving as actors and novelists, elected officials and boxing champions. They have made major contributions to nearly every facet of American society. The Philippine American community adds to the wonderful diverse American culture by sharing with us their customs, traditions and beliefs.

The renaming of the Northland Park Court as "Philippine Street" attests to the wealth of the culture we have developed here in Michigan. The spirit and enthusiasm of the Philippine American community of Southeastern Michigan has been such an invaluable asset to our great state, and has truly been the driving force in their success.

I urge my colleagues to join me in congratulating the Philippine American community of Michigan on this landmark day, and I salute them all for their tremendous contributions and support.

CALLAWAY GARDENS 50TH  
ANNIVERSARY

**HON. MAC COLLINS**

OF GEORGIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Tuesday, April 23, 2002*

Mr. COLLINS. Mr. Speaker, on May 21, 2002 one of Georgia's treasures will celebrate its 50th anniversary. Created as a place "prettier than anything since the Garden of Eden," Cason and Virginia Callaway envisioned a verdant preserve of some of the most beautiful flora and fauna in our Nation. Today, Callaway Gardens is all of that and so much more.

Featuring the world's largest man-made inland, white-sand beach, a world-class resort, the world's largest azalea garden, acclaimed golf, birds of prey program, and a collection of plumleaf azaleas, a plant which the Callaway's rescued from the verge of extinction, Callaway Gardens has been a place of relaxation and beauty for generations of Americans.

Keats once wrote,

A thing of beauty is a joy forever:  
Its loveliness increases; it will never  
Pass into nothingness; but still will keep  
A bower quiet for us, and a sleep  
Full of sweet dreams, and health, and quiet  
breathing.

That is the most appropriate description I have ever heard for Callaway Gardens.

As the family of Cason and Virginia Callaway celebrate the 50th anniversary of their parents' dream, I congratulate them for continuing to make that dream a reality. A friend of farmers, environmentalists, and those who appreciate beauty, the Callaways have crafted a marvel of modern day horticulture and botany in the midst of rural Georgia. I am pleased to represent the people who work at and lead Callaway Gardens, and I am pleased that such a thing of beauty is located in the Third District of the great State of Georgia.

HONORING THE 50TH ANNIVERSARY OF THE BROYHILL CREST CITIZEN'S ASSOCIATION

**HON. TOM DAVIS**

OF VIRGINIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Tuesday, April 23, 2002*

Mr. TOM DAVIS of Virginia. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor a community in Fairfax County, Broyhill Crest Citizen's Association, on its 50th Anniversary. This neighborhood has been providing families with the best Annandale, Virginia has to offer for many years and is well-positioned to continue to do so in the future.

Broyhill Crest Citizen's Association was founded in 1952 and held its first meeting on Annandale Road with 24 families in attendance. Today, the membership includes 1150 families covering an area of almost 20 miles, including 15 subdivisions. With a goal of being more effective in county matters, the Broyhill Crest Citizen's Association joined the Fairfax County Federation of Citizens Associations in 1953, and today is one of the largest associations in the County Federation.

Priding itself on community relations, the Broyhill Crest Citizen's Association is in con-

stant contact with its residents. Monthly board meetings and an annual meeting held each Spring allow residents an opportunity to have their voices heard, discuss problems and speak directly to elected officials. The monthly newsletter, which has evolved from a mimeograph hand-delivered bulletin in the last 50s to a printed publication mailed to residents today, is the Association's main means of communication with its residents.

The Broyhill Crest Citizen's Association strives to make our community a better place. Through close relationships with local government officials, it monitors plans and policies to keep residents informed. Social activities, including the annual Easter Egg Hunt, July 4th Celebration, and Santa Visit, have become highlights of the community calendar, providing a festive gathering place for residents, guests, local officials, and families.

Mr. Speaker, in closing, I want to thank the Broyhill Crest Citizen's Association for all it has provided to the community and congratulate all of its members on this momentous occasion which will be celebrated on Tuesday, April 23, 2002. I hope that all of my colleagues will join me in congratulating the Broyhill Crest Citizen's Association on 50 years of service and wishing them the best in the years to come.

INTRODUCTION OF OVARIAN  
CANCER DETECTION LEGISLATION

**HON. STEVE ISRAEL**

OF NEW YORK

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Tuesday, April 23, 2002*

Mr. ISRAEL. Mr. Speaker, today I am proud to announce I am introducing in Congress with Representative DELAURO of Connecticut a resolution that will result in the National Institutes of Health conducting a complete, multi-institutional trial of a potentially huge breakthrough in early ovarian cancer detection.

About 75 percent of women with ovarian cancer are diagnosed in the advanced stage of the disease, when survival rates are only 20 percent for five years. Early detection brings survival up to 95 percent. Scientists from the FDA and the National Cancer Institute reported in early February that patterns of protein found in blood serum may reflect the presence of the disease.

Our resolution will make sure that the National Institutes of Health completes a full field test of the new ovarian cancer early detection process. If the full trial of this simple blood test for ovarian cancer proves effective, I will fight to require that the blood test be given to all women as part of their annual gynecological exam and that Medicare/Medicaid and private insurance fully cover the procedure.

Tough legislation? You bet! But the time to act is now.

Ovarian cancer, the deadliest of the gynecologic cancers, is the fourth leading cause of cancer death among U.S. women. Ovarian cancer occurs in one out of 57 women; an estimated 13,900 American women died from ovarian cancer in 2001 alone.

The question before us today is whether we have the determination to commit our national resources to the health of our people. Some people say we don't have the resources to

provide for the health needs of our women. But if we would stop throwing away \$40 billion to farmers not to grow crops, maybe then we could insure that women who undergo the trauma of mastectomy are not thrown out of hospitals after 1 day. Instead of spending \$35 billion in subsidies to the biggest Gas, Oil, Drilling and Mining Companies in America, how about subsidizing a prescription drug benefit for seniors? If we would stop retroactive corporate tax giveaways to provide the biggest corporations in America with a retroactive repeal, a rebate check, of corporate taxes dating back to 1986 so that ENRON would have received a payment from you for \$125 million in rebated corporate taxes when it did not pay a penny in corporate taxes for the past 4 years. How about making sure those companies pay their fair share and maybe we could save the lives of our women from ovarian cancer. If we would close tax loopholes that permit rich corporations to run off to Bermuda to avoid paying US taxes, then maybe we could provide a prescription health benefit, reform the HMO system, broaden the scope of research and coverage on women gynecological cancers.

Governing is about making choices, and Representative ROSA DELAURA and I are here today to make a choice. We are choosing the life of the women of America, and that's why we are introducing this important resolution.

Our nation has found the resolve and the resources to tackle the most difficult problems on earth, to produce the most advanced technology, to produce the weapons we need to protect our national security. We must now find the resolve and the resources to protect our people, and especially our women, from the ravages of disease.

Mr. Speaker, that is our obligation. It is my obligation. I am confident we can achieve our goals by working together.

100TH ANNIVERSARY OF NATIONAL  
4-H PROGRAM

**HON. IKE SKELTON**

OF MISSOURI

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Tuesday, April 23, 2002*

Mr. SKELTON. Mr. Speaker, let me take this means to congratulate and pay tribute to 4-Hers all over America as they celebrate 4-H's centennial. This year, the National 4-H Program celebrates 100 years of helping young people develop skills to improve their lives and contribute to their communities.

This year, 4-H programs in all 50 states will conduct meetings, seminars, and listening sessions at the local, state, and national levels to discuss strategies for youth development in the 21st century. The National 4-H Program Centennial Initiative will culminate in a report to Congress and the President with recommendations on the programs that are best suited to helping America's youth.

Missouri 4-H programs are coordinated by University Outreach and Extension, which is a partnership of the University of Missouri, Lincoln University, the United States Department of Agriculture, and county governments. 4-H is often associated with rural communities, but today more than 1000 Missouri 4-H clubs serve as many young people from suburban and urban areas as from farms and small towns.

Although 4-H has changed over the years to meet the changing needs of Missouri families, clubs continue to live up to the 4-H motto: to make the best better. Group focused and family oriented, 4-H promotes positive physical, mental, and emotional growth through programs that help young people build self-confidence and acquire essential life skills. Today's 4-H features programs covering traditional topics such as cooking and agriculture as well as classes about the environment, workforce preparation, leadership and teamwork, and community involvement.

Missouri 4-H programs are intended for youth of all income levels, abilities, and ethnic backgrounds. With the upcoming centennial celebrations, it is an especially good time for anyone who is interested in joining or volunteering for 4-H to get involved. I know the Members of the House will join me in congratulating the National 4-H Program on reaching this outstanding milestone.

TRIBUTE TO ANTHONY J. BELLOMO, LITURGICAL ARTIST OF THE YEAR AWARD

**HON. DAVID E. BONIOR**

OF MICHIGAN

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, April 23, 2002

Mr. BONIOR. Mr. Speaker, today I rise to pay tribute to a man whose leadership and achievements in art, building, and craftsmanship has touched the lives of so many across southeastern Michigan and beyond. Anthony Bellomo, or Tony, as many of his friends and associates have come to know him, has put Mount Clemens, MI, on the map as a center of some of America's finest liturgical art. This year, as the Ministry and Liturgy Magazine of San Jose, CA, selected their "Liturgical Artist of the Year", they honored Tony Bellomo for his wining art "Trinity in Glory" which is incorporated in the Sanctuary of St. Joseph's Church in Trenton, MI.

As the former director of art at L'Anse Creuse High School North, Tony left his teaching job to pursue his love of art and good craftsmanship. His strong interest in building and construction led him to launch the Black Forest Building Company in 1982, which has since grown into a highly successful company specializing in uniquely designed decks, gazebos, gardens, and buildings. As a deeply devoted Christian, Tony then brought his unique talents and style to the field of liturgical art. Recognized nationally for his prayerful approach and artistic sincerity, today Tony's liturgical art is in 50-100 churches in 10 States across the Nation.

Additionally, Tony's innovative style and artistic philosophy will bring him to the next White House conference on the "Healing Arts" in Washington, DC. His philosophy on art and its healing power has also led him to begin pioneering work with hospital traumatic units, cancer treatment centers, and psychiatric units.

Tony Bellomo's commitment to art and faith has truly been the driving force in his success. He is a distinguished artist and leader in his community. It gives me great pleasure to honor Tony, and I urge my colleagues to join me in saluting him on this milestone occasion.

MOTION TO INSTRUCT CONFEREES ON H.R. 2646, FARM SECURITY ACT OF 2001

SPEECH OF

**HON. CHRISTOPHER SHAYS**

OF CONNECTICUT

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, April 18, 2002

Mr. SHAYS. Mr. Speaker, I rise in strong support of this motion.

This Congress has consistently, and in a bipartisan manner, supported easing our failed trade embargo on Cuba. A few years ago, we had a breakthrough and enacted legislation that allows the export of food, medicine, and humanitarian aid to the island nation. Unfortunately, that landmark legislation placed restrictions on these sales, the most onerous of which was the prohibition on U.S. financing.

For the life of me I've never understood why we are allowing United States farmers access to the Cuban market, but prohibiting our banks from financing these sales. This type of inconsistency doesn't just harm our financial institutions, it ultimately harms the very farmers we are trying to help.

The continued restrictions are also hurting the Cuban people. I don't think endangering the health and nutrition of the Cuban people is a proper response to our political disagreements with Fidel Castro. United States policy must focus on promoting a peaceful transition to democracy in Cuba. As Castro grows older, it is more important than ever for the United States to open the Cuban embargo to some trade and make efforts to develop a meaningful relationship with the people of Cuba.

Mr. Speaker, changing United States policy toward Cuba is long overdue. Unfortunately, the current restrictions on trade show there is still a cold war mentality, when it comes to our Nation's Cuba policy. Yet, I find it difficult to understand how a small island nation of 11 million people—without the Soviet Union and Warsaw Pact to protect it—could threaten the world's last remaining superpower.

I urge my colleagues on both sides of the aisle to support this motion which will clear away legal restrictions on the sale of food and medicine to Cuba. Besides benefiting the people of Cuba, passage of this motion will benefit United States trade interests, strengthen our economy, and create jobs.

RECOGNIZING MARY ANNE CASADEI

**HON. SHERWOOD L. BOEHLERT**

OF NEW YORK

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, April 23, 2002

Mr. BOEHLERT. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize Mary Anne Casadei, President of the American Legion Auxiliary, Department of New York Inc. for her outstanding efforts in assisting veterans and children. Ms. Casadei's dedicated service and leadership has helped enhance the quality of life for many veterans and children in the Rome, New York area. I applaud Ms. Casadei's achievements and those of the American Legion Auxiliary.

I am inserting into the CONGRESSIONAL RECORD, an article that outlines Ms. Casadei's accomplishments for the review of my colleagues.

ARTICLE BY THE AMERICAN LEGION AUXILIARY, DEPARTMENT OF NEW YORK, INC.

Mary Anne Casadei is a resident of Rome, New York. She is currently serving as President of the American Legion Auxiliary, Department of New York.

As a member of the largest women's patriotic organization in the world, assisting veterans is a top priority. She volunteers at the Rome Veterans Administration Clinic and Memorial Hospital. Mary Anne is the founder and Coordinator of the Griffiss Independent Veterans Effort Program (G.I.V.E. Program), which supports the Griffiss VA Clinic with donations and supplies.

One of the major programs that the American Legion Auxiliary deals in, involves Children and Youth. Not only has President Casadei been the recipient of State and National Awards for her auxiliary efforts, she has also served as a Youth Director for the Rome Family YMCA. As Youth Director she led programs for youth at risk and for developmentally delayed participants from age 8 to adults. In addition, President Casadei is involved in the Family Nurturing Center of Central New York State as a facilitator of parenting programs. She is also involved at the Court Street Diagnostic and Treatment in the Social Work Development.

As President of this great organization her focus is on Parkinson's Disease. No one knows the causes of Parkinson's Disease; therefore monies raised will go toward much needed research. The Parkinson's Alliance goal is to find a cure by 2005. Due to the generosity and commitment of the Tugman Family Foundation, all donations received by the American Legion Auxiliary during Mary Anne's year as Department President will be matched dollar-for-dollar. "We have an amazing opportunity to make a difference," said President Casadei. President Casadei's passion for this program can be attributed to the love and support she has for her ailing mother who suffers from Parkinson's disease. Ms. Casadei and her family have seen this disease ravage her mother's body and take away her independence. However, she and her family remain confident that a cure for this dreadful disease will eventually become a reality. The Veteran's Administration has recently allocated funds to six VA facilities to be used directly for Parkinson's research. These allocations are a crucial component in the quest to find a cure for this devastating disease.

President Casadei is also a strong supporter to an amendment to the U.S. Constitution that would ban burning of the American flag. Traveling throughout the 62 counties in New York State, President Casadei has vowed to protect the American Flag from physical desecration. The prominence of the American flag in just hours following the September 11th attacks on America is a matter of visual record that will stand for some time. Americans revere the Flag as a symbol that unites us all across our great nation.

President Casadei's leadership and loyalty is evident not only to the American Legion Auxiliary but throughout her community; to her family and friends; and especially to the veterans that sacrificed their lives while defending our country.

80TH ANNIVERSARY OF THE BOROUGH OF LINCOLN PARK, NJ

**HON. RODNEY P. FRELINGHUYSEN**

OF NEW JERSEY

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, April 23, 2002

Mr. FRELINGHUYSEN. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to commemorate the 80th anniversary of

the Borough of Lincoln Park, County of Morris, NJ.

The history of Lincoln Park dates back to the founding of our Nation, with settlers first taking up residence as early as 1690. Originally referred to as Two Bridges and later as Beavertown, the town's current name was adopted in 1872.

In April of 1922 the residents established the Borough of Lincoln Park as a separate town from the Township of Pequannock following the passing of a referendum.

Today Lincoln Park is home to 10,930 proud citizens and has been voted by the State of New Jersey as its "Third Kindest Town."

As the Borough of Lincoln Park commemorates its 80th anniversary its residents also remember those that were lost on September 11, 2001, with a memorial service and the dedication of a "Living Memorial" near the railroad station.

In September 2001, Lincoln Park suffered the loss of three of its residents, Peter Wallace, Catherine Nardella, and Mark Zangrilli. Despite the tragedy, the Borough banded together and raised \$20,000 for the World Trade Center Fund at its annual Lincoln Park Day on September 22.

"By serving causes greater than ourselves," the men, women, and children of Lincoln Park are helping to defeat terrorism with the "Best of America," as President Bush has urged us all to do.

Mr. Speaker, for the past 80 years, the Borough of Lincoln Park has played a significant role in helping to create the cultural fabric of our State and the municipality will certainly continue to do so in the years to come. I congratulate the citizens of the Borough of Lincoln Park on their special anniversary year, and urge all my colleagues to join me in wishing them well.

CONGRATULATING SISTER  
KATHLEEN QUINN

HON. PETER J. VISCLOSKY

OF INDIANA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Tuesday, April 23, 2002*

Mr. VISCLOSKY. Mr. Speaker, it is with great pleasure and admiration that I congratulate Sister Kathleen Quinn upon her retirement as chairperson of the Ancilla Systems Board of Directors. I can truly say Sister Kathleen is one of the most dedicated, distinguished, and committed citizens of Indiana's First Congressional District. Northwest Indiana and Ancilla Systems, Inc., has certainly been rewarded by the true service and uncompromising loyalty she has displayed to her community.

Sister Kathleen entered the religious community and made her First Profession in June of 1949. She graduated from St. Joseph's School of Nursing in 1952, and received a BSN in Nursing from Loyola University and a MSN in Nursing Service Administration from the Catholic University of America, located in Washington, DC. She began her nursing career in the Obstetrics Department at St. Anne's Hospital in Chicago and later served as the hospital's Director of Nursing Services from 1960 to 1965. For the next 2 years, Sister Kathleen served as the Assistant Administrator of Nursing at St. Mary's Hospital in East St. Louis. She then became the Assistant Pro-

vincial of the PHJC Community from July of 1967 to July of 1973. For the next twelve years, Sister Kathleen held hospital administrator positions at St. Joseph's Hospital in Fort Wayne, Indiana and St. Mary's Hospital in East St. Louis, IL. From 1985 to 1991 Sister Kathleen served as Provincial of the PHJC congregation. Most recently, Sister Kathleen served as chairperson of Ancilla, Inc., from July 1991 to April 2002. While serving as chairperson, she has served on a number of boards and committees, including: American Hospital Association, Catholic Health Association, Illinois Catholic Health Association, Gary Community Health Foundation, Edgewater Systems for Balanced Living, Legacy Foundation, Inc., St. Joseph Community Health Foundation, Health Visions Midwest, St. Joseph Hospital Advisory Board, St. Joseph Hospital Ethics Committee and Mission Effectiveness Committee, Sagamore Health Network and Advantage Health Plan Mission Effectiveness Committee, Community Foundation of Northwest Indiana, Inc., St. Joseph Regional Medical Center Board, The Discovery Alliance Board, YWCA of Gary, and Linden House of Gary.

Among her many contributions to the care of all God's people, Sister Kathleen founded the Nazareth Home in East Chicago, IN, in 1993. Nazareth Home is a foster home for children born of mothers who are addicted to various substances or who have AIDS. She was also a leader in founding the Sojourner Truth House, which is a daytime ministry for needy women and children in Gary, IN. Sister Kathleen is currently active in parish life at Holy Angels Cathedral in Gary.

Mr. Speaker, America is made a better place because of the tireless and unselfish service of its citizens. Sister Kathleen Quinn is a woman who has dedicated her entire life to helping those around her, resolutely working to aid the needy, and serving as an upright pillar of morality and conscience. In so doing, she has strengthened her community and the whole of our country and society. I ask you and my other distinguished colleagues to join me in commending Sister Kathleen Quinn for her lifetime of remarkable accomplishments, enduring service, and the unforgettable effect she has had on the people of northwest Indiana. The staff at Ancilla Systems, Inc., will surely miss her enthusiasm, but we thank her for her years of service and wish her happiness in her well-deserved retirement.

IN RECOGNITION OF THE  
SHORELINE/SOUTH COUNTY YMCA

HON. JAY INSLEE

OF WASHINGTON

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Tuesday, April 23, 2002*

Mr. INSLEE. Mr. Speaker, it is with great pleasure that I commend the Shoreline/South County YMCA on their outstanding contribution to youth and families in the greater Shoreline/South Snohomish County area of the State of Washington.

Now in their 49th year of service in the community, the YMCA builds upon a long-standing tradition of putting kids and families first by providing a location where families can spend time together and young children and teens can find a safe environment full of stimulating

and educational activities. For an increasing number of children, the YMCA fills the void in their lives and gives them direction and support in our ever-changing world.

Through a variety of innovative and supportive programs, the Shoreline/South County YMCA serves more than 3,450 individuals each year. The YMCA reaches out to families of young children through such programs as Y-Guides & Y-Princesses and an endless array of youth sports activities. Additionally, the YMCA child care sites at public schools and summer day camps give working parents the security of quality, affordable day care, with nearly a third of participants receiving financial assistance from the YMCA. In an effort to reach out to teens in the community—many of whom are considered at-risk—the YMCA partners with area schools and city governments to provide tutors at middle schools, after school programs through Klub Kellogg, and leadership building skills for teens through their YMCA Youth & Government program.

The YMCA does not do this alone. The greater Shoreline/South County community generously supports the YMCA to sustain these invaluable services. This year alone, Shoreline/South County residents, community leaders and area businesses donated a record-breaking \$100,000 to the annual Partners for Youth Campaign.

Mr. Speaker, I urge my colleagues to join me in honoring the Board of Directors, staff, and volunteers of the Shoreline/South County YMCA for their unwavering commitment to youth and families and their tireless work to improve their community, one child, one family at a time.

TRIBUTE TO MR. RICHARD  
SHOWLER

HON. GARY G. MILLER

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Tuesday, April 23, 2002*

Mr. GARY MILLER of California. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize the accomplishments of Richard Showler, a professional truck driver for Roadway Express, Inc. who recently logged over one million miles on the road without a preventable accident.

To put Mr. Showler's accomplishment in perspective, a million miles is the equivalent of circling the earth's equator 38 times. That's quite a distance.

Although a million miles is probably more than an entire family ever drives—or more than I would ever drive—what is particularly important and noteworthy about Mr. Showler's record is that he's managed to log all of those miles responsibly and attentively.

Even more impressive, perhaps, is that Mr. Showler has driven the majority of these miles on what are arguably the most congested parts of Southern California's highway system. Indeed, anyone familiar with the gridlock and traffic that is characteristic of Southern California could attest to the difficulty of negotiating those roads in a car, much less a semi-truck with a full trailer of goods. In short, Mr. Showler is among the most distinguished and safe drivers out on the road today.

Mr. Showler, a member of Local 952 of the International Brotherhood of Teamsters, has been with Roadway for twenty-two years. Happily married, with a son, Mr. Showler resides

in Yorba Linda, California. I have no doubt his family is proud of him. When he's not out on the road, Mr. Showler is an active long board surfer and helps coach his son's Little League games.

Mr. Speaker, I am proud to rise today to pay tribute to Mr. Showler's record of safety, and I hope my colleagues will join me in saluting his one million-mile driving safety achievement.

SMALL BUSINESS AND DIS-  
LOCATED WORKER OPPOR-  
TUNITY ACT

**HON. JOHN ELIAS BALDACCI**

OF MAINE

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, April 23, 2002

Mr. BALDACCI. Mr. Speaker, at a time when American workers are facing new challenges, it is important to open new avenues to prosperity and economic success. Entrepreneurship has long been such a path: it holds the promise that anyone can pursue his or her own dream. Workers who have been laid off because of import competition deserve to be able to pursue such opportunities. They also deserve a helping hand as they forge this new path for themselves.

The Trade Adjustment Assistance Program was designed to help workers who are displaced due to foreign competition. It provides assistance so that such workers may seek training to gain new skills, and launch themselves onto a more stable and prosperous career track. However, the program can do more to help people who want to start their own businesses.

This bill will accomplish that goal. It specifies that workers who pursue self-employment assistance activities—such as entrepreneurial training, business counseling, technical assistance and related training approved by an appropriate State agency—can still qualify for Trade Readjustment Allowances (extended benefits equal to unemployment insurance) under the TAA program.

In addition, this bill also ensures that displaced workers have a more realistic chance to succeed in their new business. People who have unexpectedly lost their jobs have rarely had the chance to plan or to save the extra resources needed to start a business. On top of that, they face ongoing living and medical expenses. Unemployment Insurance and TRA can help to meet these costs, but they stop as soon as a new business starts, at a time when most businesses are still struggling and when the income they bring is most insecure.

That is why this bill will allow workers who have undergone entrepreneurial training to continue receiving TRA during the first six months after the start of their new business. This gives displaced workers a crucial source of income support, and helps them overcome the distinct disadvantage their job dislocation has caused. However, to ensure that businesses succeed on their own merits, the bill provides for these extended payments to be phased out over time. Thus, workers would be eligible for full TRA in the first 14 weeks after they start their new business, 75 percent of their benefit in the 6 weeks thereafter, and 50 percent of the benefit in the next six weeks.

This bill not only gives hard-working Americans the freedom to pursue a new profes-

sional path, it also gives them the means to do so. It levels the playing field so that workers who have lost their job because of foreign competition have a fair chance at turning misfortune into opportunity. As the wave of global economic change forces our workers to adapt, we must give them the tools to succeed. This bill is a strong step in the right direction.

MOTION TO INSTRUCT CONFEREES  
ON H.R. 2646, FARM SECURITY  
ACT OF 2001

SPEECH OF

**HON. JAMES P. MORAN**

OF VIRGINIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, April 18, 2002

Mr. MORAN of Virginia. Mr. Speaker, I rise in strong support of my friend, Representative BACA, and his motion to instruct farm bill conferees to restore food stamp benefits to immigrants.

The Baca motion supports immigrants being allowed to apply for food stamps if they are low-income and have been in the United States for 5 or more years. Children would also be eligible for food stamps regardless of when they entered the United States.

In my congressional district, the restoration of food stamps benefits is very important. Everyday, many of my constituents, who often hold more than one job, wake up and go to work to provide for their families. Studies have shown that 43 percent of legal immigrants are working jobs that pay less than \$7.50 an hour, with little increase in wage rates.

Restoring these benefits would be inexpensive. In fact, the cost for restoring these benefits has already been built into the \$6.4 billion allotment for the nutrition title in the farm bill.

The diet of our nation's children and families, whether they were born in the United States or somewhere else, should be one of the most important considerations in this year's farm bill debate. Restoring food stamps benefits to immigrants would be a step in the right direction.

While the Senate and House farm bill conferees continue to work hard to reconcile the differences in their farm bills, I urge them to consider the Baca motion and make restoring food stamps benefits to our hardworking immigrants a reality.

COMMEMORATING SAM L. ERVIN,  
HEALTHCARE PIONEER

**HON. STEPHEN HORN**

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, April 23, 2002

Mr. HORN. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize the long and distinguished career of Sam L. Ervin, a pioneer in the development of innovative and cost effective programs that enhance the quality of life for older and disabled adults.

Mr. Ervin was the founding executive officer of the original Senior Care Action Network (SCAN), a social health maintenance organization in Long Beach, California. SCAN was selected by the then Health Care Financing Administration in 1982 to be one of four dem-

onstration sites for the Social HMO program. The Social HMO expands comprehensive HMO benefits to include community-based long-term care and some nursing home care.

Thanks to Sam Ervin's many years of remarkable leadership and dedication to improving the lives of senior citizens, today, SCAN serves more than 50,000 members in four Southern California counties. Since its inception, SCAN has made a unique and significant contribution to seniors' ability to remain healthy, independent and in control of where they live and how they live.

As a testament to SCAN's success and necessity, I have introduced H.R. 2953, the Coordinated Community Care Act of 2001 to make Social HMOs a permanent part of the Medicare+Choice program. I am proud to do so and to recognize Sam Ervin for his contributions to the improved quality of life for thousands of seniors.

INTRODUCING THE TAX EXEMPTION  
FOR MILITARY STUDENT  
LOAN REPAYMENTS ACT

**HON. GARY G. MILLER**

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, April 23, 2002

Mr. GARY MILLER of California. Mr. Speaker, today, I am introducing the "Tax Exemption for Military Student Loan Repayments Act."

Today's military requires more high-tech skilled personnel than ever before and the military continues to have a dire need to recruit for its shortage of medical personnel. To fill these jobs known as military occupational specialists or MOSs, the Army, Navy and Air Force utilize student loan repayment programs to attract skilled recruits who have gained high-tech, medical, or other valuable skills, but may be hesitant to join the military because they have incurred substantial indebtedness to finish their college education.

The military student loan repayment program remains popular among military officials because it targets a growing population of people with skills that the services can use. Unfortunately, these payments made towards student loan debt are considered taxable income although these payments are made directly to the student loan creditor, and the soldier, sailor, or airman never sees these payments reach their wallets. As a result, unless the military person requests additional funds to be withheld from their pay, they will in most cases owe a significant amount in taxes for each year repayments are made.

Having to pay taxes on this important recruitment incentive reduces the effectiveness of the program, which is designed to attract highly skilled military personnel to fill critical military occupational specialties. Further, the taxation of these payments seems to place an overly burdensome tax on the pay of military personnel who must already contend with a 7.6% military to civilian gap in pay. To enhance these recruitment efforts and deliver tax relief to military personnel, the "Tax Exemption for Military Student Loan Repayments Act" will amend Section 134 of the Internal Revenue Code of 1986 to exclude the military's student loan repayment from taxable gross income.

Mr. Speaker, I urge my colleague to support this legislation, which will enhance the military's effort to recruit highly skilled personnel,

deliver tax relief to our underpaid men and women in uniform, and make the military a more viable option for people who wish to serve their country but are weighted down by their student loan debt.

CONGRATULATING COW CREEK  
BAND OF THE UMPQUA TRIBE OF  
INDIANS ON THEIR 20TH ANNI-  
VERSARY

**HON. PETER A. DeFAZIO**

OF OREGON

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Tuesday, April 23, 2002*

Mr. DeFAZIO. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize and to congratulate the Cow Creek Band of the Umpqua Tribe of Indians on the twentieth anniversary of their federal restoration. Saturday, April 27, 2002, will be a day of joyous celebration of their renewal.

In 1954, the Termination Act severed the trust relationship between the Federal Government and the small tribes and bands of western Oregon, including the Cow Creek Band of the Umpqua Tribe. If you can imagine losing your home and having your identity expunged by an action of Congress, you can begin to understand the consequences of termination for the Cow Creek Umpqua.

The termination of the Cow Creek Band of the Umpqua Tribe was only one of many catastrophic events in the history of their relationship with the United States Government. By 1954, they had been stripped of their homelands, survived relocation, and suffered the loss of their reservation lands. Yet, despite great tragedy and unimaginable loss, the Cow Creek Umpqua endured.

In 1982, the Cow Creek Umpqua were restored as an Indian tribe and established formal relations with the Federal Government. The Recognition Law was a tribute to the indomitable spirit of countless tribal elders and tribal leaders, like Ellen Furlong Crispen and Sue Crispen Shaffer, who refused to let the Cow Creek Umpqua be extinguished.

Recognition of the Cow Creek Umpqua enriched the lives of tribal members, and local communities gained a strong and active partner in their efforts to help youth and families. The Cow Creek Umpqua Foundation and the Tribal Council have given nearly three million dollars to the Special Olympics, local schools, community organizations, and civic projects.

The history of the Cow Creek Umpqua is an impressive story of remarkable perseverance in the face of overwhelming challenges. I am pleased to offer my warmest congratulations on this historic anniversary and my good wishes for continued.

HONORING THE 22ND ANNUAL  
RADIO VISION RECOGNITION DAY

**HON. BENJAMIN A. GILMAN**

OF NEW YORK

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Tuesday, April 23, 2002*

Mr. Gilman. Mr. Speaker, I rise today in recognition of the volunteers of Radio Vision in Orange County, New York for their 22 years of devout service in my Congressional district. Radio vision is a radio reading service for over

600 blind and visually handicapped listeners located in the Mid-Hudson region of southeastern New York. This outstanding organization informs its listeners of local events and news, which is broadcast by Radio Vision's dedicated volunteers.

To the more than 8 million Americans with visual impairments, programs such as Radio Vision are valuable assets.

Radio Vision, an outreach service of the Ramapo Catskill Library System, is a radio reading program for the blind, visually handicapped and print impaired listeners 24 hours a day in the lower Hudson Valley region.

Radio Vision allows listeners daily to stay informed with news of their community and the world-at-large and thus enables them to participate in discussions of local and current events. This service is made possible by the dedication of volunteers that have helped make this service a success since 1979, and it is supported by Outreach Funds from the New York State Legislature.

Many of us take the gift of sight for granted, especially with our ability to watch television or read newspapers in order to learn of the daily worldwide events. We are incapable of knowing what it is like to be blind and have no other means of gathering information without the sense of sight. Radio Vision provides the blind residents of our Mid-Hudson region the opportunity to find out news and current events, since the means of conveying information via television and newspapers to the blind is impossible.

It is our duty in the United States Congress to help the citizens of our nation with disabilities and to support the programs that focus on creating a better life for others.

Moreover, I have cosponsored H.R. 1601, which would have amended the Social Security Act to restore the link between the maximum amount of earnings by blind individuals permitted without demonstrating their ability to engage in substantial gainful activity and the exempt amount permitted in determining excess earnings under the earnings test.

Last year, I supported the Medicare Vision Rehabilitation Coverage Act which would have provided for coverage of vision rehabilitation services under the Medicare Program. These bills will increase older individuals' access to vision rehabilitation services and increase Medicare reimbursement for vision services, respectively.

Mr. Speaker, I am proud to bring Radio Vision, their cause, and the honorable deeds of those devoted volunteers at Radio Vision to the attention of Congress and I invite my colleagues to join me in praising their continuing efforts in helping the blind.

MOTION TO INSTRUCT CONFEREES  
ON H.R. 2646, FARM SECURITY  
ACT OF 2001

SPEECH OF

**HON. TOM UDALL**

OF NEW MEXICO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Thursday, April 18, 2002*

Mr. Udall of New Mexico. Mr. Speaker, I rise today in strong support of Mr. BACA's motion to instruct conferees to restore food stamp benefits to legal immigrants. I applaud Mr. BACA's efforts on this issue and am happy to support him in this worthy endeavor.

In addition, I would also like to applaud President Bush's effort to restore food stamps for legal immigrants, which is of critical importance to so many families all across this country. Unfortunately, conferees from the President's own party voted to block the Administration's proposal to restore food stamps to legal immigrants on April 10th.

Instead, they voted for a far more stringent proposal that would make it virtually impossible for immigrant families to qualify for food stamp benefits. This opposition is preventing more than 350,000 people from benefiting from this program that helps poor families feed their children.

Mr. BACA's proposal contains the same provisions that were in the Administration's proposal, which passed the Senate by the overwhelming vote of 96 to 1. These provisions include allowing legal immigrants access to food stamps after 5 years, allowing individuals with 16 quarters of work to be eligible for food stamps, and restoring food stamp benefits to children and other vulnerable populations regardless of date of entry.

I urge my colleagues to support this motion to instruct conferees and help ensure that all legal immigrants, especially children, are eligible for food stamps. Legal immigrants who work hard, live by the rules, pay taxes, and even serve in our armed forces deserve access to food stamps. Lets do the right thing and pass this motion to instruct conferees.

MOTION TO INSTRUCT CONFEREES  
ON H.R. 2646, FARM SECURITY  
ACT OF 2001

SPEECH OF

**HON. MAXINE WATERS**

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Thursday, April 18, 2002*

Ms. Waters. Mr. Speaker, today, we are voting on H.R. 3839, "Keeping Children and Families Safe Act." Preventing child abuse, providing family support to decrease the numbers of abandoned infants, and establishing transitional housing for domestic violence victims are all critical pieces of keeping people safe. Making sure they have adequate food is another.

Congress has an opportunity to do just that through the Farm Bill. Last week, Rep. BACA introduced a Motion to Instruct the Conferees to restore food stamp benefits to legal immigrants. It would allow children to be eligible for food stamps regardless of when they entered the U.S., and to reduce the work requirement for adults from 40 quarters to 16 quarters. I support this Motion to Instruct and urge my colleagues to do so as well.

Nationwide, 37 percent of all children of immigrants lived in families that had trouble affording food. In 1999, the incidence of food insecurity in immigrant households was almost three times that of White non-Hispanic households. Extensive research has shown that children who do not have adequate diets have poor health, slow development, and difficulty concentrating in school.

This Motion to Instruct does not take an extreme stance. We're talking about legal immigrants. These are people who work hard, pay their taxes, and contribute a great deal to our Nation. The Motion to Instruct also requires

people to work 16 quarters, or approximately four years, before they can become eligible for food stamps.

Importantly, restoring benefits to legal immigrant children will also help reach citizen children. Over 85 percent of immigrant families are "mixed status" and include at least one citizen child. Seventy-four percent of those families left the food stamp program from 1994 to 1998.

Once someone has come in legally, and has worked hard to support this economy, they should be entitled to a little support for their families and their children. They should be eligible for food stamps. While we're working at keeping children and families safe, let's not forget that adequate food is the first step.

Support the Baca Motion to Instruct the Conferees.

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40TH ANNIVERSARY OF ST. JUDE CHILDREN'S RESEARCH HOSPITAL

**HON. NICK J. RAHALL, II**

OF WEST VIRGINIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Tuesday, April 23, 2002*

Mr. RAHALL. Mr. Speaker, "You give but little when you give of your possessions," the Lebanese poet Khalil Gibran once wrote. "It is when you give of yourself that you truly give." Danny Thomas lived this truth. His generosity of spirit endures at the St. Jude Children's Research Hospital forty years after he established this essential institution.

"As a member of the Professional Advisory Board since 1996, I was honored to work with Danny Thomas to further the Hospital's mission. It is one of the world's leading centers of research and treatment for life-threatening childhood illnesses, particularly cancer. Remarkably, no child pays for St. Jude's services. I am proud that the American Lebanese Syrian Associated Charities raise the funds to cover all costs of patient care."

MOTION TO INSTRUCT CONFEREES ON H.R. 2646, FARM SECURITY ACT OF 2001

SPEECH OF

**HON. DIANA DeGETTE**

OF COLORADO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Thursday, April 18, 2002*

Ms. DeGETTE. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to voice my support of restoring food stamp benefits to legal immigrants, recently arrived children, the disabled and refugees. This is the right thing to do, it is the decent thing to do and I urge my colleagues to act today to accomplish this.

Legal Permanent Residents pay taxes and their labor helps to drive our economy. Food stamps can provide these needy families with a temporary safety net during difficult times.

Food stamps provide a crucial safety net that allows working men and women to feed their families during hard times. Hunger does not limit itself to American citizenship; therefore, we should not create a policy to systematically deny food assistance to needy immigrants in this country.

Immigrants come to this country to work hard and make a better life for themselves and their family. Cutting off needed benefits to those who legally reside in this country is both unnecessary and cruel. I have both co-sponsored and voted for legislation to restore the benefits to legal immigrants since I was first elected to Congress.

Most of the legal immigrants in this country are employed. These workers, like all other residents, pay taxes. In many cases, they are the fathers, mothers, sisters, and brothers of American citizens. Their labor helps to drive our economy and they deserve help when they need it.

Immigrant workers can also be the most vulnerable during an economic downturn. Prior to September 11th, the Hispanic unemployment rate was rising faster than the national average. The terrorist attacks and subsequent economic impact only worsened the situation for

Latinos in this country. Food stamps are not a permanent fix; they are a temporary means to provide the neediest people the most basic resource to survive.

I will continue to fight for equal rights and just treatment for immigrants throughout my tenure in Congress.

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MOTION TO INSTRUCT CONFEREES ON H.R. 2646, FARM SECURITY ACT OF 2001

SPEECH OF

**HON. DONNA M. CHRISTENSEN**

OF THE VIRGIN ISLANDS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Thursday, April 18, 2002*

Mrs. CHRISTENSEN. Mr. Speaker, I rise to support of the Baca motion to instruct conferees and urge my colleagues to support its adoption.

My colleagues, President Bush proposed the restoration of food stamps for legal immigrants who have been in this country for five years in his fiscal year 2003 budget. Following the President's lead, our colleagues in the other body voted overwhelmingly to include the President's proposal in the Senate version of the Farm bill.

We are here tonight however, because our colleagues on the other side of the aisle on the conference of the Farm bill regrettably voted to block the Bush proposal to restore food stamps for legal immigrants and supported a more stringent proposal instead; which would make it virtually impossible for immigrant families to qualify for food stamp benefits. The opposition to the President's proposal will prevent more than 50,000 people from benefiting from a program that helps poor families feed their children.

Restoring food stamp benefits for low-income legal permanent residents and children is the right and responsible thing to do.

I urge my colleagues to support the Baca motion to instruct.